

Made  
In  
The  
80s

LEGEND 2004-2005 VOL. 64

Portage High School  
6450 US Highway 6  
Portage, IN 46368















# Made In The 80s

Portage High School  
100 US Highway 6  
Portage, IN 46368

LEGEND 2004-200





The class of 1980 strutted through the gymnasium doors with diplomas in hand. Little did they know that we would refer to them in the year of 2005.

The addition of the second building, (for the 1979-1980 school year) not only expanded Portage High School, but also allowed more diversity within the student body.

"Made in the '80s" not only refers to the building itself, but also to the present day student body at Portage High School.

Although some students were born in the '90s, all students were technically "Made in the '80s."







As the 1980 yearbook, entitled "Handle With Care", stated that Portage High School was under construction, we also can relate to that statement today since we are currently preparing for the construction of a new field house and other facilities to add to the premises. Not many students believe that the work they put forth in high school transfers into their later life, SAT scores, as well as an average GPA, can predict a better chance for success.

Through both trials and tribulations, the student body at Portage High School holds their respective heads up high and are sure to have a positive attitude for an exceptionally positive day.





Academies are another new addition to Portage High School's agenda a few years ago. These classes can lead to possible career paths and help students to have a general outlook on their plans after high school.

General classes were all that were offered for the students of the 1980 class. Our school has not only expanded in size, but also within the classroom. Some new classes and vocational opportunities offered for this new coming year are Film Literature, Digital Photography, Leaders of Tomorrow and Television Production/Telecommunications for a vocational opportunity for students.



Portage High School has undergone many changes over the years,  
but the school as a whole remains relatively the same. The future  
is looking bright for our current student body. No one knows what  
our future has in store for us, but we do know where we  
have been and that our future is based on our past.

A past that was...

Made

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Did you feel the tsunami story is over rated?



ROBERT TIESBURG, 12

As long as we keep helping them, I don't think we should forget about the disaster.



RAY MEEHAN, 9

Yes, it's not right that we give to other countries for their disasters, when we have our own to handle.



RYAN TRUNK, 11

Yes, we have a lot more to worry about, we should be worrying about our soldiers at war.



AMANDA KAPALKO, 12

Do you think that the SAT will be of benefit to you?



KIMBERLY PAYNE, 11

Yes, it might help other students that people are stronger in, to increase their score.



JANA ZERVOS, 12

No, you are still going to have the same score so if people did well before, they will do well.



ASHLEY EDMONDS, 12

It doesn't matter to me because I feel that I will do well on the next test as well as the older one.



KRAIG KMICZEK, 11

# Tsunami: Devastation on South Asia and East Africa

by: kimberly reddon

Devastation struck on December 26, when parts of South Asia and East Africa were hit by a tsunami. The death toll surpassed 150,000 people with many still missing. The waves reached over twenty feet.

A tsunami is a Japanese word, which translates as "harbor wave", now used internationally to refer to a series of waves traveling across the ocean with extremely long wavelengths (up to hundreds of miles between wave crests in the deep ocean). When these waves approach shore, the speed of the wave decreases as they begin to "feel" the bottom. It is at this time that the height of the wave drastically increases. As the waves strike shore they may inundate low-lying coastal areas resulting in mass destruction and in many instances loss of life, according to [www.tsunami.org](http://www.tsunami.org) <<http://www.tsunami.org>>.

Many relief efforts have taken place since. People are reaching far into their pockets and hearts to try to help contribute to the support of the victims of the tsunamis. Celebrities have made large donations; Japanese stars have even decided to remake a 1980s song, which 100% of the proceeds will go to the relief efforts.

Local efforts are being made here in Portage Indiana. The elementary

school Crisman gave each student a bottle of water and asked when each bottle had been drank to fill the bottle up with change or money and the proceeds would go to one of the relief funds for the children.

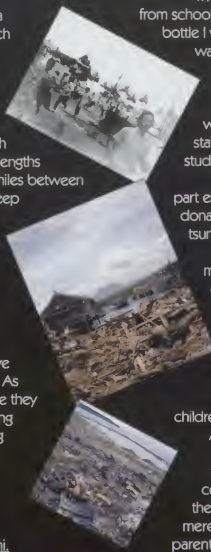
"When my child came home from school with the paper and the bottle I was happy to see the school was teaching the kids about caring for others and helping people out, it is nice to know the school wants to teach compassion," stated mother of Crisman student, Karen Cahillane.

Walmart has also did its part encouraging customers to donate what they could for the tsunami.

"Walmart is a place most people go in the community so it was a good idea to have a place where people could make donations," stated Walmart worker Joshua Guidarelli.

The tsunami left many children orphaned and homeless. Adoptions were not being made though because the children could not be considered orphans, due to the fact that they could just be merely separated from their parents. Many refuge camps were set up with a high possibility that parents and children be separated, which is devastating enough.

The tsunami affected many lives in a large variety of ways. Each person dealt with something terrible to deal with after the tsunami. With all the relief actions being made, it is a hope that the aftermath would be made a little easier to deal with for all those that were affected during this devastation.





# Headed on the Right Track

by: amanda burch

A new student society was formed to represent the staff and student population here at Portage High School. Their duty was to meet and greet new visitors and students and give the guided tour of the school as well as assist in staff meetings and events. These fellow student leaders were given the title of Arrowhead Ambassadors.

"Our duties are to have great attitudes, represent the school, wear a uniform, greet people who are not from our school and make them feel welcome here at Portage, where together we succeed," states junior Olivia Zamarron.

Many wonder how one could become such a leader. Over the first few weeks of the new school year, signs were posted around school and teachers, as well as sources from student council and staff, helped to push the students toward becoming involved in the new found organization.

"I wanted to be an Ambassador because I saw this as an opportunity to show other students that they could do anything they put their mind to," stated senior Jacinta Anekwe. "I also wanted to prove something to myself that I could be responsible enough to become one of Portage High School's Ambassadors."

Not just anybody could become an Ambassador. It takes many hours after school, extra homework due to being taken out of classes, and sacrificing free time to long hours spent at school functions.

"When selecting the students we looked for a good personality, cheerfulness, good students academically as well as

behavior wise, responsible, one who is involved in extra curricular activities but not excessively, and lastly, we chose ones who wanted to work on their leadership qualities" commented Assistant Principal Eric Floyd.

There are many downsides of being an Ambassador, but there are many perks and benefits as well. Some of these perks include free admission to prom as well as all dances and sporting events, attaining a close parking spot, getting out of class, free shirts and it was reported that name tags were in the works. The true benefits lie in being able to gain experience and knowledge from the various visitors and authority figures that come to explore the different aspects and elements of the school.

It is best stated by senior James Geary. "I wanted to find a way to give back to the school in a positive way and this was it for me."

Not only was this a way to gain experience and knowledge but it was also a way for students to become acquainted with the role models in the surrounding communities. It became a learning experience, not just for the students but for the adults as well.

Senior Paige Roy expressed her gratitude towards the program.

"The most interesting person I got to show around was a lady who was a representative from IUN. She was very glad to see the ambassador program and she told me stories about her own journey in high school. I really thought that was interesting. I couldn't wait until the next duty so that I could meet more individuals like her."



## SATS Changing and How It Will Effect PHS

by: samantha neary





# OLYMPIC SPOTLIGHT: TOP OF THE IR GAME

by: amanda stasik

With the first recorded Olympic games having taken place in 776 B.C. the format of the games have changed dramatically. The modern Olympics, we are familiar with, began during the 1896 Olympic games in Athens and since without major change as the Olympics came back to Athens for the 2004 Summer Games. On August 13, 2004, 72,000 spectators and billions of television viewers watched the opening ceremonies of the Athens Games, and as in years past, anticipated the young athletes rise to the top.

"There is no greater honor for an athlete than representing his or her country in the Olympic games," commented Chief Executive of the USOC, Jim Scheer, before the start of the competitions. (According to OlympicUSA.org)

Newcomer Michael Phelps became America's golden boy and won the hearts of the viewing public. At only 19 years of age, Phelps tied with Aleksandr Dityatin for the greatest number of medals won in a single Olympics. Phelps ended the games as recipient of eight medals including six gold and two bronze.

"An Olympian is an Olympian for life and that is something no one can ever take away," explained Phelps after accepting the Male Athlete of the Year Award.

(According to OlympicUSA.org) Paul Hamm became a well-known name as well after leaving the games as the first American man to win the male all-around gymnast competition. He won by just .012 points putting Kim Dae-eun of South Korea in a close second; this is now known as the closest win in Olympic history.

"It was my goal when I came here to win. I thought I could, but I can't say I expected to win," Paul Hamm modestly stated after coming back from twelfth place to first. (According to OlympicUSA.org)

Although not the U.S.'s first, Carly Patterson won female all-around gymnast at the age of 16. Along with that great accomplishment, Patterson also walked away with two silver medals including one for team competition and the other for balance beam.

"She brings that extra touch to competition," stated Martha Karolyi, women's gymnastic coordinator, and then goes on to compare Patterson to past U.S. gymnastic greats by including, "Carly has the same quality that Nadia and Mary Lou had." (According to OlympicUSA.org)

After two long weeks and twenty ceremonies, the United States won the race with 103 medals including 35 gold. Russia came in second with 91 and China followed up in third with 63 medals in all. The Olympic Summer Games will continue in Beijing in 2008 and there once again our athletes will compete to break records and rise to the top.

# HURRICANE'S: THE DEADLY DISASTERS

by: stephanie greer

If you ask anyone they will tell you about one of the worst hurricane seasons that happened was in the fall of 2004. Everywhere people turned they were hearing about the hurricanes in Florida and the damage it brought to people's properties there. If either the news referenced Hurricane Frances, Ivan, or Charley we sure did hear about them. Just like we had 3 destructive hurricanes in Florida before, we also had 3 terrible hurricanes with Kate, Elena, and Floyd in the 1980's.

Meteorologist's who have studied the hurricanes in Florida have stated that September is the worst time of year to be living near the Gulf of Mexico. At an average the month of September has about 315 storms that can result into a disastrous hurricane. The month of August is not far behind with an average of 229 storms a year. By the time October comes, the storms die down to about 193 and then when November comes, the region only receives about forty four. Out of all of these storms about five to seven actually result in hurricanes. However, since most hurricanes remain out at sea, the number has little relationship with a chance of experiencing high winds or surge near Florida's landscapes.

"Overall, this has been a very destructive and costly hurricane season," said meteorologist Stu Ostro of the Weather Channel. "The official totals are not in yet, but this will

likely go down as the costliest hurricane season on record in the U.S."

The vast majority of that destruction focused on Florida, whose miseries of storms began August 13. When Hurricane Charley slammed into Punta Gorda, about seventy miles south of Tampa. With winds of 145 miles an hour. Charley's wind speeds made it a Category Four storm. On Labor Day weekend, Hurricane Frances, a Category Two hurricane came next. Then came Hurricane Ivan, which at one point was one of the most fearsome storms on record books. Ivan had winds of 165 miles an hour as it came across the Caribbean. Ivan lost strength before making a landfall near Mobile, Alabama, but the hurricane's front right quadrant, which always packs the most powerful punch, provided to slam Pensacola, Florida. Ivan caused massive damage and added to Florida's 2004 hurricane death toll which now stands at more than seventy people altogether.

After the terrible hurricanes, local news exclusive survey found that thirty one percent of people asked said this year's storm season has caused them to think about leaving their homes and moving to a state with less hurricanes. However, sixty-nine percent of the people that were surveyed said no, that they have not thought about moving away from Florida because it is their hometown.

# National Hockey League Cockout

by: nikita momola

The NHL is undergoing a lockout that no one knows how long it will last. Owners of all the hockey teams want to put a stop on each of the teams in the NHL. This will mean that teams will only be allowed to spend a particular amount of money on players and teams yearly.

"They shouldn't have a lockout because the fans will be missing out on watching their favorite teams and players," said John Jay Pankiewicz.

We are now without hockey until a settlement is reached between the players and the organizations. The players are angry because they are not getting the amount of money that they feel they deserve. The NHL and the NHL players have not met or spoken since a negotiating session in Toronto on September 9, 2004. It was one week before the lockout began. No talks are scheduled anytime soon. Both sides do not seem close to budging or coming to an agreement anytime soon.

Pankiewicz stated, "Not having hockey will bring down the hockey organization because people will be less interested in hockey."

Right now the NHL players are doing many different activities since they have so much off time. Chris Chelios is planning to form a Greek bobsled team and compete in the 2006 Olympic games in Turin, Italy. There have been over 200 NHL players who have headed overseas to play hockey. Mark Bell of the Chicago Blackhawks is considering contact offers from hockey clubs in Sweden and Finland.

"I was very disappointed when I first heard about it and now I don't get to watch my favorite players," said Pankiewicz.

Steve Poupart of the Chicago Blackhawks knows how important it is to keep on preparing as though the season could start at anytime. Steve Poupart works out with other players at the gym twice a week, lifting weights, spinning classes, and he has on-ice practices with other players.

Scott Nichol from the Chicago Blackhawks has been to the on-ice practices and has gone to the gym with some of the NHL players in the area. He said he wanted to continue working out and going to the rink because he thinks the

one thing he can have control over is what sort of shape he is in. He thought it would be better to keep skating instead of taking time off.

"Everybody looks forward to hockey season because it's one of the greatest sports," said Pankiewicz.

Scott has also tried to make the most out of spending time with his few teammates that are still around the area. Blackhawks goal Jockey Thibault stops by his house occasionally to visit.

"I just hope hockey season gets started again soon because I can't wait to see the Detroit Red Wings win the Stanley Cup again," said Joseph Pankiewicz.

We know that the 2004-2005 season is cancelled. This is the first time in any major league sport in the United States that any sport did not have a season. Only time will tell if the NHL will start up next year.



# Putting the Curse TO AN END

by: jessica hodge

Finally putting their eighty-six year curse to rest, the Boston Red Sox triumphed over

injured as a result of the uncontrollable crowd.

Another unfortunate injury to act up was the torn cleat in Curt Schilling's right ankle. If it were not for Red Sox team doctor, Bill Morgan there would have been no possible way Schilling would have

their opponents, the St. Louis Cardinals in the final game of the World Series.

Odds against them, the Red Sox faced the Anaheim Angels in the Division Series and defeated them three games to none. Next, the Sox opposed their long time rivals the New York Yankees and overcame them four games to three; a feat that proved to be the biggest series comeback in post season history.

In midst of the excitement, a tragic event occurred following the Sox win of the American League Pennant.

Twenty-one year old Emerson College student, Victoria Snelgrove passed away outside Fenway Park due to a head injury. The wound was imposed by a local police officer in an attempt to calm an unruly crowd. Soon after the incident she passed at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Sixteen others were also

been able to pitch in the post season. To aid in easing the pain Reebok specifically made a shoe with personalized ankle support to assist Schilling in pitching during the post season games. Luckily for the Sox Schilling was able to fight through the pain and assist his team to succeed.

After conquering the Yankees, the Sox then moved on to face the St. Louis Cardinals in the World Series.

Energy on their side, the Sox beat the Cardinals in the first four games of the series. Completing this triumphant triumph was what the Sox had been struggling to achieve for the past eighty-six years. "The Curse of the Bambino" was placed upon the Red Sox by former teammate Babe Ruth in 1916 after Ruth was traded to the New York Yankees. The curse stuck strong throughout the years. The Sox proved this year that

not even an eighty-six year curse could prevent them from taking the title of the World Series they had yearned for, so long.

The closest the Sox had come to winning the World Series title had been in 1986. This was the nearest a team had ever gotten to winning a World Series in history without actually prevailing. Champagne bottles in hand Sox fans prepared to rejoice in their team's victory. The festivities quickly came to a halt after Bill Buckner allowed



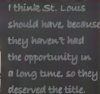
the ball to slide through his legs. The Red Sox hopelessly watched as the victory they thought was theirs slipped through their hands and into the mitts of the New York Mets.

## Did you enjoy the World Series this year?



**TIMOTHY HECABEE, 12**

They did well, although it was an upset when St. Louis lost, but I give the Red Sox credit because they deserved it as well.



**NOLAN GRAVES, 12**

Yes, I was glad the Red Sox won because they played very well and came through in tough spots.



**TRACY MARKWELL, 12**

## What was your favorite event of the Olympics?

I thought it was ridiculous that the Japanese wanted Paul Hannon's medal!



**ALICIA LABOY, 11**



**CHRISTOPHER BOINT, 12**

Diving. It was the only thing on the TV and it was entertaining to watch because it's their own art.



**TRISHA SABOCIK, 12**

Marathon Running. I am a runner and it inspired me to have a better drive to run during the school season.

**LEAH BEARDS, 12**

Shot put, because I went to Olympia and saw where shot put took first place.



**ATHANASIA PAPACHRONIS, 12**

NATIONAL NEWS: CONTINUED



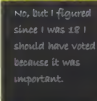


## Did "Vote or Die" get you to vote?



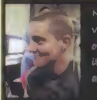
LAURA MERIKNER, 12

No, but I heard about teenage voting being down this election and it persuaded me to vote.



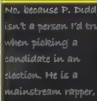
STEPHEN SWEAT, 12

No, but I figured since I was 18 I should have voted because it was important.



RAYMOND GOSS, 12

No, I was going to vote regardless of all of the publicity and it seemed like it was a hype over nothing.



KYLE JACOBS, 11

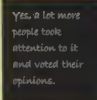
No, because P. Diddy isn't a person I'd trust when picking a candidate in an election. He is a mainstream rapper, let him stick to that.

## Did you feel that this election was more serious than the last election?



TARIN MILLIGAN, 12

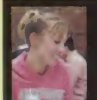
Yes, because the issues were a lot more serious this year because of the war.



DOUGLAS HALE, 12

Yes, a lot more people took attention to it and voted their opinions.

## Was the election fair this year?



PAIGE ROY, 12

Yes, because we didn't have major recounts this year like we did during the last election.

# Close Call For All

by: hannah mckee

On November 2, 2004, after months of campaigning and preaching their opinions, the two presidential candidates, George W. Bush and John Kerry, could do nothing but wait. For on this day, Americans set out to elect the next president of the United States of America. Although some crucial states, such as Ohio, were too close to call the morning after, Bush and his campaign were certain that he would carry the Republican Party to victory and they were right.

The day after the election, many news stations and publications were predicting that the incumbent Bush would win with at least 286 electoral votes leaving Senator Kerry with only 252. Nevertheless, Kerry and his campaign still believed that with all of the provisional ballots left to be counted in Ohio they could possibly win.

"John Kerry and I made a promise to the US people that in this election every vote would count and every vote would be counted. Tonight we are keeping our word and we will fight for every vote," stated John Edwards in a speech made to the democratic audience during the early hours of November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

However, once it was clear that there were not enough provisional ballots left to give John Kerry a victory, the

candidate decided to concede so as to not prolong the election and make America suffer. Kerry made it clear that he did not "want the country to be divided anymore" and a short time after he made this statement, he decided to call President Bush to formally concede.

"I hope you are proud of the effort you put in. You should be," said President Bush to Kerry during their five-minute phone call.

The 2004 election brought about the highest voter turn out ever since 1968. Just under 60% of

eligible voters exercised their right to vote and in the end, 120 million people voiced their opinion. Of all of these votes, Bush won 51% of the popular vote leaving John Kerry with 48%. Among voters' top concerns were terrorism and moral values where Bush's opinions reigned high. However, some people, including students, believe that America was not given enough information to make an educated decision.

"I believe the people of America needed to be better informed. If they knew and understood the positions of each man, I believe that the outcome would have been a lot different," said junior Jennifer Mose.

However, with every negative opinion of the election, comes a positive.

Many students believe that America made the right decision and had the outcome been different, America would be in trouble.

"Had President Bush not been elected, I would have considered moving to Canada," said junior Samantha Tampier in all seriousness.

So here America is, with four more years of President Bush, the only president's son ever to be reelected. Whether America loves him or hates him, the country needs to unify and become one indivisible

naen





# Vote OR Die

by: kathryn batista

Promotions guru Shawn Press spent most of the past decade touring products such as hip-hop music, movies, and even soda. Three months ago, he began what he describes as "the most important promotional campaign of his life," — to encourage young people to vote.

"It's important for our generation to find what we stand for and support the candidate whom we think will do the best for our country," explained senior Krisan Cieszkiewicz.

Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, one of music world's greatest pioneers of hip-hop, has stepped up in his attempts as a musician to get young adults in the US make their voice heard in November's Presidential election. By taking his "Vote Or Die" campaign to the Democratic Party conference in Boston, Combs, along with a variety of artist, work their way through America influencing the youth of America on this year's election.

"No matter what anybody tells you," Reverend Al Sharpton said, "the real deal is what Puffy said, 'Vote or Die.' Your life could be at stake."

The star has been leading the fight to get several 42 million young and minority voters to engage in the political process. Senior party officials such as Hillary Clinton and Ben Affleck echoed his call by backing up Combs' campaign. Intentions of the specific

campaign were that if celebrities were brought into the picture, the youth of America would feel inclined to become involved in this years extremely closed and imperative election.

"I feel that if a celebrity I looked up to was involved in the campaign, it would make me want to vote a lot more since the person I admire is, rather than some random politician I've never even seen," claimed junior Danielle Leimbach.

According to MTV, the hip-hop mogul resurfaced at New York's Madison Square Garden, where the Republicans held their national convention at the end of August. Compared to 2000's "Rock the Vote" campaign, which promoted about 250,000 votes from the youth, this year's "Vote or Die" campaign rose up to about 4.2 million more votes. Also during this year's election, 17 percent of 18- to 24-year olds stepped up to the call and voted in this crucial race for presidency. Although this percentage is the same as 2000's, more residents voted this year, making its total amount of youth votes an all-around, high number.

"I think that a larger group of younger people got involved in this year's election because there was so much more promotion on how important this one was. Since the race was going to be so close, it was crucial that everyone gave his or her vote," said Pre-Calculus teacher Charles Tomes.

# Best Friends: HeAd-To-HeAd ON PoLiTiCs

Proudly and Unashamedly  
Written by:  
Amanda Morales



## Top Ten Reasons John Kerry Should Be Elected

10. He fought in Vietnam and was later, courageous enough, not hypocritical, to speak out against a needless war. He understands war at its core element and the horrors of it. He is therefore, not so eager to bring us to it.
9. He is intelligent and can articulate his opinions and policies to the public.
8. The Democratic Party, from when John Kerry derives, does not nurture a philosophy, that further burdens the already down trodden, but one that attempts to life them up to the equality.
7. He cares about women's rights. He is pro-choice, not pro-death. His religious affiliations do not reign upon all of his judgements.
6. He has a competent and compassionate running mate who focuses on making ideals a reality rather than ignoring the current reality.
5. John Kerry formulates his own decisions and if put in office would keep constant a wider range of people on important characteristic, particularly in foreign relations.
4. He understands that domestic issues are an important focus and doesn't not run from them by drawing attention to foreign relations. John Kerry recognizes the need for diplomatic communication and strong relationships with other countries without ignoring his own.
3. "Moral Values" shouldn't be basis upon which a president is elected, especially if those values are contradictory with ones own policies. War is immoral, but now that it has begun, the American people needs someone who can see it thoroughly.
2. John Kerry is concerned with social security and Medicare.
1. And in closing, A president who "sticks to his guns" when he is holding the wrong weapon is not a fortress of strength or paradigm of consistency, but a stubborn man with ignorant tunnel vision. What is the difference if one doesn't change ones mind when the mind is set on the wrong idea? If our current president can't handle the "hard work" the presidency requires, then he shouldn't. Lastly, John Kerry is an honest

Proudly and Unashamedly  
Written by:  
Alexandria Stewart



## Top Ten Reasons George W. Bush Should Be Re-Elected

10. George W. Bush is not pretentious. He can laugh at himself and recognize his own shortcomings. After all, we all have them. A president is no different.
9. President Bush actually loves his wife, not her money.
7. George W. Bush recognizes this country's inherent responsibility as the world's one and only superpower, to aid in foreign crises around the world, and is determined to carry out this noble task.
6. George W. Bush knows what he believes and sticks to it. This trait is greatly contrasted in his opponent, who has no idea what he believes, but (to his credit) sometimes knows what certain other high-ranking democrats believe and more or less sticks to that...maybe...for a minute, well, kind of.
5. In that same train of thought, George W. Bush is not afraid to say what he believes, be those belief religious or political, and is gladly willing to face any criticism he may receive like a man.
4. George W. Bush looks nothing at all like Herman Munster.
3. President Bush's strong stance on terrorism around the world-let's remember that the War on Terror was not designated the "War on Terror in Afghanistan" or the War on Terror Tactics Used By Al-Qaeda! This is the war on terror. Period. Has helped him will continue to help plant the seeds of democracy in countries where evil was spread around thickly.
2. George W. Bush passionately loves this country and the freedom it stands for.
1. George W. Bush is the classic American boy who presents a strong front to the rest of the world during these turbulent times when real, strong leadership is exactly what the doctor ordered, while at the same time remaining an approachable, trustworthy, loving, and kind man on the domestic front. We couldn't ask for a better man to lead our great nation.





# "Martha Stewart Living": IN PRISON

by: andrew culpe

ON DECEMBER 27, 2001, MARTHA STEWART SOLD HER STOCK IN IMLCONE JUST BEFORE THE SHARE PRICE DROPPED EIGHTEEN PERCENT. ON JUNE 4, 2003, SHE WAS NAMED IN A NINE-COUNT INDICTMENT. ON JULY 15, 2004, STEWART WAS SENTENCED TO FIVE MONTHS IN PRISON, FOLLOWED BY TWO YEARS OF SUPERVISED RELEASE, INCLUDING FIVE MONTHS UNDER HOUSE ARREST. SHE WAS ALSO SENTENCED TO PAY A FINE OF \$30,000. ON OCTOBER 8, 2004, STEWART REPORTED TO PFC ALDERSON TO SERVE HER SENTENCE IN THE MINIMUM-SECURITY PRISON CAMP.

STEWART WAS CHARGED WITH TWO COUNTS OF FALSE STATEMENTS, ONE COUNT OF OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE, AND ONE COUNT OF SECURITIES FRAUD. STEWART WAS ACQUITTED OF THE SECURITIES FRAUD CHARGE, NAMED IN THE NINTH COUNT, ON FEBRUARY 27, 2004. THE REASON FOR THIS EXONERATION WAS BECAUSE JUDGE MIRIAM CEDARBAUM FELT THAT NO JUROR COULD FIND STEWART GUILTY ON THIS CHARGE

BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.

THE SUPPORT OF STEWART'S FANS WAS WIDELY SHOWN AS SHE WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS. AFTER SHE REPORTED TO ALDERSON, STEWART SAID IN AN OPEN LETTER ON HER WEB PAGE, [WWW.MARTHATALKS.COM](http://WWW.MARTHATALKS.COM), THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED MORE THAN 10,000 E-MAILS TO HER WEB SITE AND THOUSANDS OF LETTERS TO HER AT ALDERSON. INCLUDING IN THE LETTERS WERE GIFTS AND MONEY, EVEN THOUGH SHE ISN'T ALLOWED TO RECEIVE THESE ITEMS WHILE IN PRISON.

ON OCTOBER 20, 2004, STEWART'S ATTORNEYS, ROBERT S. MORVILLO AND JOHN T. TISUE, FILED AN EIGHTY-SEVEN PAGE APPEAL BRIEF THE SECOND CIRCUIT OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS. IN THE SAME OPEN LETTER ON HER WEB PAGE, STEWART STATED THAT HER ATTORNEYS "BELIEVE THIS IS A VERY STRONG APPEAL, AND ACCORDINGLY I REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT I WILL BE EXONERATED." A DECISION ON THE APPEAL ISN'T EXPECTED UNTIL AFTER STEWART IS FINISHED SERVING HER PRISON SENTENCE IN MARCH.

## Earnhardt Cusses UP Controversy

by: megan richmond

On Sunday, October 3rd Dale Earnhardt Jr. was nearly perfect on the racetrack. Earnhardt had charged from eleventh place to first in the last five laps of the NASCAR Nextel Cup at the Talladega



Superspeedway. Earnhardt's only major slipup of the day was in victory lane when he said one of George Carlin's "Seven Words You Can Never Say On Television."

With this win, Earnhardt moved into the series lead, over Kurt Busch, by thirteen points, but the lead was now in jeopardy.

"It don't mean (expletive) right now." is what thousands of race fans

heard when Earnhardt was asked how it felt to have won on the 2.66-mile track for the fifth time. His father, the late Dale Earnhardt, had won on the same track ten times, including his final victory in 2000.

Earnhardt was afraid of losing points because Johnny Sauter and Ron Hornaday were both fined \$10,000 and penalized twenty-five points each for saying the same word in a radio interview after the Busch series this year. The NASCAR president, Mike Helton, had warned the drivers to watch their language during on-air interviews.

NASCAR handed down the same penalty to Earnhardt as they did to Sauter



and Hornaday. This penalty took Earnhardt from a thirteen point lead over Busch to second place, twelve points behind Busch for the Nextel Cup Standings.

On Sunday November 21, 2004 the final race of the Nextel Cup Series was underway. In the end, Earnhardt crossed the finish line in twenty-third place, putting him in fifth place for the overall season. The twenty-five points wouldn't made any difference in the standings.

NASCAR laid down a harsh penalty earlier this year by setting a dangerous precedent with Sauter. Now they have been forced to penalize their most popular driver. NASCAR has made their bed, now they have to lie in it.





# CAUGHT IN THE ACT

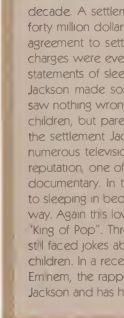
by: ashley jalovecky

In mid November of 2003, Michael Jackson began to face allegations against himself, stating he sexually assaulted a thirteen-year-old cancer stricken boy. This was the second time Jackson faced charges such as these within a

decade. A settlement of about fifteen to forty million dollars was set forth as an agreement to settle the case. However, no charges were ever filed for this case. Instead, statements of sleeping in the same room as Jackson made some controversy. Jackson saw nothing wrong with what he did for the children, but parents thought differently. After the settlement Jackson appeared on numerous television shows to better his reputation, one of which was a BBC documentary. In this broadcast he admitted to sleeping in bed with children in a nonsexual way. Again this lowered his good image of the "King of Pop". Throughout the year Jackson still faced jokes about him and young male children. In a recent song "Just Lose It" by Eminem, the rapper dresses up as Michael Jackson and has his hair catch on fire as well

with young boys jumping on his bed. These are just a few of the many harsh jokes played on the King of pop.

Also in June of 2003 NBA star Kobe Bryant was faced with sexual assault charges after "Jane Doe" sued him for mental pain and suffering. In July of 2003 Bryant faced actual charges that could have put him in prison for a period of four years. Jane Doe's real name was finally used in court after more than a year. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 the case was dropped after the woman decided she no longer wanted to be on trial. In the future Kobe's case may be moved to Orange County, California because the woman filed a federal suit in Denver, Colorado only three weeks before the case was dropped. Another argument is that the woman had contact with other men before and after the alleged rape happened. No one is really sure when this case will settle in court, but Kobe will definitely not settle this quickly or easily.



# ON A SATURDAY...

by: teri harrington

Everyone remembers Milli Vanilli back in 1994. Some witnessed the duo's tape scrambling with their eyes, but others have just seen it on MTV shows, such as, I Love the 80's. For most, it's impossible to imagine the shock these artists went through after being exposed to all of their fans. For Ashlee Simpson however, the situation became all too real.

On the night of October 23, 2004 Simpson made her debut on Saturday Night Live along with the coveted actor Jude Law. Simpson performed a few skits with Law and other regular cast members on the show before belting out the lyrics to her now infamous song "Pieces of Me". A few more skits were presented to the audience to enjoy before the moment in which no viewer will forget came to be.

Law announced Simpson's second performance, pronouncing to the crowd, "adies and gentlemen, once

again, Ashlee Simpson!" Everyone cheered, the music started, and faces displayed looked of confusion. It seemed as if the band was playing, but different notes were coming from somewhere else. Then a voice came, as Simpson stood still with the microphone by her side, "On a Monday I am waiting..."

Simpson started skipping around as if she were an extra in the movie Footloose before running off the stage completely. She then came on stage to say good-bye, along with the rest of the cast members, covering her face in embarrassment.

At first she blamed the uncomfortable moment on her band stating, "They played the wrong song", but now it has been said that her father/manager made the decision for her to lip sync because of acid reflux.

No matter what the problem was, the moment will forever remain one of the funniest moments in musical history for Ashlee Simpson and SNL.

## What is your opinion on Ashlee Simpson?



If your going to have a career in music you should have the ability to sing, not rely on a tape.

JEANNA STOLARZ, 12

I dislike her, and she deserved what she did, if one had real talent she wouldn't have needed to lip sync.



TIFFANY EPANTIS, 12



I think she is a fool, and that she is riding off her sisters fame.

TIMOTHY SLATTON, 12

Do you feel the charges made against Martha Stewart's case where fair to her?



Yes, she illegally traded and got what she deserved.

ERIC LOEFFLER, 12

No, she got off too easily because she was famous and that isn't right. She should be penalized as a regular citizen.



KELLY CANNER, 12

What is your opinion on the Dale Junior scandal? Do you feel he was treated fairly for what he did?



It's ridiculous, its something he did outside of racing and shouldn't effect his point system.

ADAM KILGORE, 12

SCANDALS IN OUR COUNTRY



## What are Your Opinions on the Health Craze?

If people are medically unhealthy they should be doing diets, not random physically fit people.



REBECCA MYERS, 12

I think the health craze is a bad idea because giving up bread to eat tons of meat won't make you skinny. Especially if you don't work out, you won't lose weight. Plus I think it can only cause heart problems down the road.



DANIEL NOWACZYK, 12

## Were any passing legends idols to you?

Roy Charles made me look at his life and his obstacles he overcame to not only make it in his music but also in life. I think we should all learn from Roy Charles and strive to believe in ourselves and over come difficult situations in our lifetime.



SARAH SANTANA, 12

## Does the Bowling For Soup song, "1985" represents the 80's well?



ALEXANDER HERNANDEZ, 12

I think it is a great representation of the 80's. It makes several delicious references to the pop culture in 1980.



ANDREW CULP, 11

# BOWLING FOR SOUP

captions by:  
meredith mcloed

bruce springsteen, madonna were wuz up and blonde there was up and blonde and musie still on mt her two kid in high school they tell her that they uncel cuz they still preoccupied with 19, 19, 1985 wookchoo 1985 wookchoo they seen all the clarier they know every line breakfast club, pretty in pink even

stunt elmo fire the rocked out to whom not a big limp black pan thought she'd get a hand on a member of duran duran where's the mini-skirt made or snake skin and what's the other guy that's fingering in van halen when did reality become tv, what ever happen to sitcom, game shows (on the radio was) bruce springsteen, madonna were wuz up and blonde there was up and blonde and musie still on mt her two kid in high school they tell her that they uncel cuz they still preoccupied with 19, 19, 1985 wookchoo she hater time make it stop when did melody crew become classie rock?

and when did oazy become an aeter? please make this stop stop! and bring back bruce springsteen, madonna were wuz up and blonde there was up and blonde and musie still on mt her two kid in high school they tell her that they uncel cuz they still preoccupied with 1985 wookchoo bruce springsteen, madonna were wuz up and blonde there was up and blonde and musie still on mt (wookchoo) her two kid in high school they tell her that they uncel cuz they still preoccupied with 19, 19, 1985



considered one of rock music's living legend, bruce springsteen provided the world with hits since the 80's. he wrote four albums in the 80's including the well known album, "born in the u.s.a.", in jersey where he was born and grew up he was considered a "hero" and was well respected, altho he was very successful in the e-street band in the 80's, but in 1988 springsteen and the band called it quits and moved on.



formed in 1978, duran duran went to emi records by the time of the mid-1980's and released their debut album called "duran duran." then they came out with the album or "girls on film" which got great reviews and gave the band a great fan following in this time. duran duran is still popular to this day.

formed from ireland, this band, u2 was considered "the world greatest rock band in the 80's". they were known for making political and social statements. their album "war" was thought to be one of their breakthrough albums of the 80's.





# Shaping-Up America With a Health Craze

by: jessica bolint

With everyone striving at a body of perfection, one man came up with a new diet. This diet set this year's health craze. The Atkins diet has changed the life of many along with other recommended fitness plans of 2004.

The well-known low-carbohydrate craze has invaded the U.S. in a storm. The way Atkins works is by reducing the amount of carbohydrates you consume in your body, you can expect to loose weight. It is considered to be the newest way to loose weight. One way to get started on

this diet, is to invest in one of the many famous Atkins diet books. Also, you could buy an Atkins starter kit sold at a number of stores, such as Walgreens.

There is also controversy with the Atkins diet. Some say it is not healthy. Two recent studies in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, however, report that individuals on a low-carb diet obtain the same amount of weight loss after a year as those on more traditional low-fat diets. Dr. Donald Hensrud, a weight management specialist of Mayo Clinic said that the calorie intake

is the "bottom line". Cutting carbohydrates won't make a difference unless the calorie intake is also controlled. An individual's health is also at risk.

"Health care professionals fear bone loss, muscle breakdown and kidney disease, as a result of low-carb diet induced ketosis," reports Ann Saul Dudrick of the *Tribune-Review*.

Atkins has even come out with a line of food products, which are sold in various stores. With this, many other companies have been inspired to also make food with less carbohydrates,

so that they're sales would stay up with this change in everyone's dieting habits. The ice-cream company of Ben & Jerry's invented a low-carb ice-cream, so that ice-cream lovers who are on the Atkins diet can still eat their product. Some other Atkins inspired products include: low-carb fruits, cheesecake, flour, pizza, pasta, chocolate, cereal, and beer. Fast food has even fallen into this craze. Subway has been a big advertiser for Atkins, with the new Atkins friendly sub. A total of 588 low-carb products hit the shelves this year.

"It's more convenient for me to eat the food I want while I'm on the diet." Stated senior Ashley Vargas.

New ways of slimming your weight down pop up every year, each a variation of a technique of the previous year. One way that has become exceptionally popular is balance training. This is when an individual does a traditional exercise, such as squats, while standing on a balancing device. In this exercise you concentrate on your core or midsection. It is said to help improve performance in any physical activity. Also, Pilates and yoga are still widely used.

# The Passing of Legends

by: krisan cieszewicz

As each school year passes, so do the familiar faces of actors, musicians, and former leaders. Although they have passed, their legacies live on through their foundation, music, movies, or some other imprint they have left on our culture.

The 40<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, served in the White House from 1961-1969. Reagan passed away on June 5<sup>th</sup> from pneumonia at the age of 93 and suffered from Alzheimer's disease since the mid 90's.

According to TV.com, his son, Michael Reagan, says, "I pray that as America reflects on the passing of my dad, they will remember a man of integrity, conviction and good humor that changed America and the world for the better. He would modestly say the credit goes to others, but I believe the credit is his."

He set the economic and cultural tone of the 1980's, reviving the Republican Party into a conservative revolution.

Rick James, the man who established the "punk-funk" style of the eighties, died at age 56 on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Although it was said that James died of natural causes, a coroner found nine drugs in his system, including cocaine and methamphetamine. The drugs found in his system were determined to not be at life threatening levels.

Rick James reached the level of stardom in the early eighties when he released his single "Superfreak" in 1981. His album "Street Songs" reached the number one spot on the R&B charts and number 3 on the pop charts. "Superfreak" was his biggest hit.

Julia Carolyn McWilliams died on August 12<sup>th</sup> in her sleep at the age of 91. She was the first woman inducted into the Library of Congress's Hall of Fame. Julia Child became a household name after

her cooking show, "The French Chef." Along with her television career and her famous cookbooks, she was also the first public television personality to win an Emmy.

Superman star, Christopher Reeve suffered a cardiac arrest and died in a hospital on October 10<sup>th</sup>. His family was with him as he passed.

He was paralyzed from the neck down after being thrown from a horse in 1994. Soon after, he became an advocate for spinal cord injury research.

Reeve says, a per TV.com, "I refuse to allow a disability to determine how I live my life. I don't mean to be reckless, but setting a goal that seems a bit daunting actually is very helpful toward recovery."

The Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation was started to fund research to develop treatments and cure for paralysis caused by spinal cord injury and other central nervous system disorders. The foundation is continuing in Reeve's honor.

Ray Charles, nicknamed "the Genius," passed away at age 73 on June 10<sup>th</sup> because of liver failure. Charles was blind from glaucoma since the age of 6. He won 12 Grammy Awards and always had a passion for music.

Cited by TV.com, Charles says, "I was born with music inside me. That's the only explanation I know of. Music was one of my parts...like my blood. It was a force already with me when I arrived on the scene. It was a necessity for me, like food or water."

Other famous people who have passed away this year include Janet Leigh, the actress best known for her role in "Psycho," comedian Rodney Dangerfield, actor Marlon Brando, cosmetics queen Estée Lauder, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, and O2's rapper, Russell Jones.



Christopher Reeve  
1925-2004



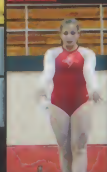
Mini Mag







The word sport, in one-way or another, was born in ancient Greece when, as many know, competitions were held to determine the best man in the way of strength.



Medals, money, and other prizes were handed out to ones who excelled after the grueling competitions. After all of these years, the act of awarding those who prevail has not changed much. However, when participating in a high school sport, athletes walk away with a lot more than ever expected.



A wide variety of sports are offered here at Portage High School, giving students the chance to reach their full





potential both physically and mentally. Being physically active and in good shape overall has been proven to reduce stress and can lead to living long and healthy. On the other side of the field, athletics provide most with not only strenght, but also determination. When given the chance to compete, a little bit of drive should never be in short supply. The confidence some acquire helps indefinitely throughout their everyday lives.

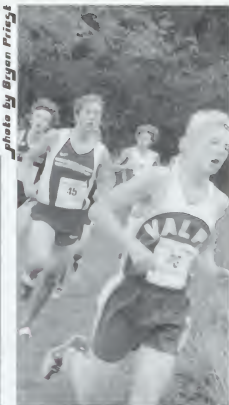
Thus being said, the athletics here at Portage High School promote the well-being of every student and all of the coaches involved.





When it comes down to running, coach always knows best. Coach Jeff Smenyak warms up and gives advice to senior Timothy Dohner, junior Jeremy Davies, and senior Robert Bailey before a race.

While trying to stay ahead of the rest of the running pack, junior Jacob Ahlborn gives it all he has at the sectional meet. Ahlborn finished in thirteenth with a time of sixteen minutes and fifty-two seconds.



## What makes you push yourself to run?



Brandon Campbell



Robert Bailey



Jeremy Davies



Timothy Dohner

"I love to run, but the biggest motivator is to be with others and be a team and a family who loves to run."

"I do it for my teammates, my coach, and myself. For self satisfaction at the end of a race knowing I gave it my all."

"Helping out the team and keeping myself in shape and out of trouble."

"The will to do something that not many other students are willing to do and doing well for my team and for my coaches motivates me."



After running in the Duneland Athletic Conference meet at Woodland Park, junior Brandon Campbell takes a breather while looking at the place card handed to him.

The top seven runners gather for a group shot in front of their family and friends after taking first place at sectionals. The team won the event with a total of twenty-nine points.







Photo by Teri Harrington



Photo by Megan Pincus

Before celebrating with others, seniors Timothy Dohner and Robert Bailey applaud an amazing job. The two ran together for most of the run, but then came to finish fourth and sixth.

## Together takes team to new level

Throughout the years, it has been obvious that every season there is a great bond between all of the runners on the cross country team. They are together, practicing and working hard, from the end of each school year until late October.

"Yes, our season might seem long, but I really wish it was longer because it goes by faster than you realize. I have such a great time with all of the guys," said senior Chris Curiel.

In his fourth year of coaching the team, Mr. Jeff Smenyak has had a large influence on each of his runners. He sets a positive example for the team and does his best to drive them into wanting to take home a win from every race.

"I have learned to be strong and confident, and that there are no shortcuts to be the best," said junior Jeremy Davies.

Smenyak has been coaching some of his runners since their sixth grade year at Fegely Middle School including senior Jason Willis, who was one of the major factors for the squad's success this season.

Willis' 2004 titles include third place in the Duneland Athletic Conference, second place at Sectionals, and first place in the Regional. The Portage boys took first place in all three events. The team also conquered semi-state, overpowering Valparaiso, with a score of 73-103, but unfortunately, placed sixth at the state meet with 202, coming in after two teams they had previously beaten during their regular season competitions.

"I always pushed my hardest and tried to lead the team the best I could. We did great, trying to stay together as a pack and prevailing in most of our post-season competitions," stated Willis.

The team, ranked eighth in the state throughout the majority of the season, was one of the more dominant forces, expected to outrun other area teams at each meet.

Junior Benjamin Kerezman summed up their main goal by stating, "We went into each meet with a 'loosing is not an option' attitude."

Subsequent to achieving overall second place at sectionals, senior Jason Willis expresses his exhaustion on the grass. Willis went on to win regionals and helped the team to a sixth place finish at their state meet.



# Young Talent with High Expectations

Story by: *Jeanette Heery*

This cross country season has had its emotional and physical ups and downs for the inexperienced, but yet an exceptional girls' team. Having no seniors racing and still walking away with a third place finish in both sectionals and regionals along with second place at semi-state, and twelfth at state gave the team the confidence they needed for further seasons. Racing two juniors, three sophomores, and two freshmen would have been a problem for most teams in sectionals, regionals, semi-state, and state but the hard work and dedication these runners put in paid off.

"I feel I had to step it up because we had no seniors racing in these tough races. Since there were no seniors, nobody really wanted to jump into the leadership role, so I had to be that person," said sophomore Emily Robbins.

The girls' cross country team started practicing for this season in June and did not finish their season until the end of October. Practicing six days a week with the team and then running on their own on Sundays, the girls put in an average of forty to fifty miles a week. The fourteenth ranked Indians worked hard to prove that they might not have the upperclassmen and experience that the other teams have, but they would not let that stop them from doing well this season.

"My performance, as of now, just finishing regionals, I have not met my goals. I am getting there. Fourteenth at regionals is something I can be proud of after sitting out for being sick. As a team, we had an abundance of talent. We have done very well this season. Everyone has a lot of depth and determination," Robbins stated.

Many injuries and illnesses were faced during this season, some of which were serious, and some that ice and rest would heal. Everyone getting sick and injured put a slight setback on the team, but they were not

going to let these disappointments put a damper on the rest of their season.

"I hurt my thigh this season, but I continued to run on it, but then I got bronchitis. I had to sit out for a week because of the bronchitis towards the end of the season which really set me back," junior Katie Wilk, stated.

The dedication, effort, and time these runners put into cross country will pay off. The girls will train all throughout the winter and spring for next years season to give their sophomore team more experience.

"I think that it is awesome that the team and program has improved so much under Coach Heimburg and Coach White, and that having all underclassmen is such a huge advantage for us since we can still be strong and make a huge impact on other teams in the next coming years," sophomore Theresa Calagu commented.

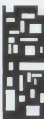
The team ended with a dual meet record of 6-1 this season. The girls placed third in both regionals and sectionals. They raced hard beating their Chesterton rivals for second place at semi-state. Twelfth place was an accomplishment for the team. Even though only underclassmen raced during sectionals, four of the girls placed in the top fifteen. Two of the underclassmen placed in the top fifteen at regionals. The 2004 cross season was an overall success.

"I am very proud of the team. They all raced their hardest all year long and it showed. Hopefully we will place better at state next year since all of our girls are returning," sophomore Sophia Coleman stated.

Even though the girls did not place as well as they wanted to at state, they still did exceptionally well for their season. With the top seven runners returning next year, they will hopefully continue their excellence in cross country.



As a team, the Portage pack quickly races ahead of their competitors to the front of the race. The Indians placed second at the semi-state meet with help of their hard work.



## Bio On Cross Country Star



**Kristen Myers**

**grade:** Junior

**Running Inspiration:** The rest of my team is my inspiration

**Running Career:** This was my first year running cross country.  
**Favorite Movie:** How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days

**Plans after high school:** I plan on attending college but I don't know which one yet and to continue running.

**Proudest Moment:** Getting second at semi-state and beating Chesterton







Exhausted freshman Melinda Misch is running extremely hard to keep up with her opponents during the Duneland Athletic Conference meet. Misch contributed to the third place finish.

In front of two competitors, junior Christina Blackwell strives to keep ahead even though she is exhausted. Blackwell work paid off and went on to place twentieth at state.



With anticipation, the team lines up on the starting line and awaits the starting gun at the sectional meet. The team was able to outdo their competitors to finish in third place.



At the Duneland Athletic Conference meet, the Portage girls come off from the starting line strong. Running in a pack helps to encourage the team to go faster.

In full stride, freshman Lisa Samplawski gives it her all to finish the final stretch of the sectionals meet strong. Samplawski helped the team finish in third.



## Struggling for Success

Looking to the new year, a lot of expectations came along with a fresh new starting line up. With such an extravagant and dominating 03-04 year, nothing but high hopes and demands were expected from the 04-05 classes. "Our season had its ups and downs. We started off awesome and then things got a

little rough. Eventually we brought ourselves back up to end the season with pride," exclaimed senior linebacker

Andrew Dranchak.

With the season leading to a monumental upset, some of the peers and bystanders of the team believe that this year's group of elite athletes didn't pull things together very adequately.

Since success would be defined as the achievement of something desired, planned, or attempted, what's to say that these athletes weren't successful with the achievement of their own personal triumphs? "As a senior, this year I tried to be a leader to the rest of the team. I wanted everyone to be able to look to me for inspiration. Personally, I tried to become the best football player I could be," stated

Mr. Football John Dallas Hesselcine.

With a long anticipated chance in the spotlight, many younger boys stepped up to find their deserved places on the field as well as their potential within.

"There is no way to explain the admirable job junior Eric Tharp had done replacing one of the best centers ever, Darrel Hobgood.

He immediately learned all of the formations required and immediately took on all of the responsibilities. He has become a distinguished leader and many of the players followed by his example," explained offensive line coach Robert Kania.

Pulling it all together in the end, the team finished their tedious season with an outstanding comeback.

Fans everywhere came together for the crucial game versus the Merrillville Pirates to give all their support. The final score of this traumatic game ended up being 44-38, a terrible disappointment for all the players after a triple overtime.

So with all the expectations held for this outstanding season, we can only wait to see what the future holds for the quality of the 05-06 football team.

Jody and photos by Katherine Bell



When quarterback Jacob Huston looks to his team mates, the offensive line gets set and ready for the play to begin. Steady and on guard, the line prepares to protect their quarterback.



After making the tackle, Portage players look to see where the ball lies. As the players look on hopefully, its crucial to see whether the opposing team made the first down or not.







Huddled together, the offensive team listens to Coach Craig Buzea as he instructs the players. Quarterback Jacob Huston makes sure to take careful notes so he knows what's expected.

Before the game, junior Christopher Longo stands with teammate Erik Rhein as he gets his hand taped up. Most athletes are involved in numerous sports, so they must take care of all previous injuries they've required.



In a down position, juniors Phillip Wright and Christopher Longo get set, closely watching their man. On defense, the athletes anticipate the moment the ball is snapped into play.

As senior Alfredo Sanchez looks onto his team mates, he waits and prepares for the moment his is needed. Patiently, he watches as senior Robert Leib and sophomore Anthony Bohling do their jobs.





# Practice Makes For a Promising Future

Story by: Hannah McLeer

When fall begins every year, players around the state prepare for their first football game. For Portage High School, the last games have come and gone, and the players have either dwelled over the teams they succumbed to, rejoiced about the ones they dominated over, or more importantly, thought about the lessons they have learned. The freshmen and junior varsity years of football are the most important as they help prepare the members for the years to come as well as teach them how to work as a team. Just as in the past, this year was no different.

"We stress success...and want to win every game we play, but the main goal every year is to teach our players how to play in the Portage system," said freshmen head coach Jay Hodges.

The freshmen practiced everyday after school, except for Thursdays because of their games. The practices, although not quite as long as the varsity team's, required the players to run and work hard which in the long run will help them stay conditioned and keep them up to speed when they are thrown into the mix of the different ages of players. Their determination, as well as their knowledge of the plays, will help all of the members of this freshmen team be prepared for the years to come.

"The plays are basically the same and we learned to play together," said freshman quarterback Vance Johnston, when asked how he felt his first year of high school football prepared him for the next season.

Although the freshmen started their season at 1-2, they strived to do their best and didn't lose a game after the third one and ended their record at a strong 7-2. Many agreed there were a number of highs and lows, but one highlight stood out as being the best part of the entire season.

"The best part would have to be an Albert winning conference," said freshman Ben Evans.

The junior varsity team practiced with varsity so they could learn to work together as a group and to help make the players stronger physically, mentally, and emotionally. All of the effort that the junior varsity players put in with the team will help them for next year, as many of them will play on varsity.

"I got a lot of playing time and it (junior varsity) helped make me better," said sophomore Steven Juszcak.

The junior varsity team finished the season with a 5-4 record and did their best in each and every game. Their season was a success as they learned that team work was most important and that made all of it better for some players.

"(The season went) decently as we came together as a team," said junior Chris Camery.

Because of all of their effort and the practicing the players have gone through, they have grown as individuals as well as a team. Next year will hopefully be an amazing year for the players of both of these teams as well as for the new crop of students coming in.

## Who is your favorite Pro Player?



"Joey Harrington because he is on the best team in the NFL. He will be one of the best quarterbacks..."

William Ball, Freshman

"Donovan McNabb because he's so big but he's one of the better quarterbacks in the league."



Andrew Farmer, Sophomore



"Brett Favre because...he has played many great games in his life."

Eric Wilk, Freshman



Photo by Jayson Babin

Filled with exhaustion, a group of junior varsity players run off the field after a play in the game. Rest is an important part of football as a player needs all of the energy he can get.



Set in his position, sophomore Avery Pearman is ready to play. Pearman was a part of the defense for the Indians' junior varsity team that helped to stop many teams from scoring.



Photo by Hannah McLeer



Photo by Jayson Babin





The freshmen Indians, including quarterback Vance Johnston and offensive lineman Eric Wilk, try to move down the field. The freshmen Indians averaged just under 22 points a game.

As the team takes a break at halftime in the Michigan City game, freshman Stevan Marjanov takes a moment to reflect. At this point, the Indians were beating the Wolves.



Photo by Bryan Heger



Photo by Bryan Heger



Photo by Allison Bostel

After a play in the Michigan City game, a group of freshmen, including Kenneth Evans shown here, speaks to one of their coaches. The team went on to beat the Wolves, 20-6.

The junior varsity Indians get set to stop Valparaiso from moving down the field. The defense, shown here, did the best that they could to stop the other team from scoring.



At a pregame practice, sophomore James Battreall prepares himself for the upcoming game.

He works on techniques and strategies to ensure another victory.



## A Season of Change

Story by: Amanda Glasik

This year Portage boy soccer finally retired their well-known uniforms. Thanks to a generous donation from Mayor Olson the team was able to begin their season with a new look and a bolder presence.

"I like the new uniforms because they are lighter and more comfortable than last years'," stated sophomore Mike Disney. As this was the first year for the team's new uniforms it was also their last year playing at Willowcreek Middle School's Trumble Field. The teams gladly welcomes the idea and looks forward to playing on the soon to be AstroTurf football field, which should be finished in time for the next season.

"It was good to go out with a win while playing our last game at Trumble field and hopefully the new turf will increase our speed of play," commented Junior Brendan Mulroe.

Along with changes the team faced this year there was another aspect unique to this year. Freshmen, Kiyoshi Kobayashi from Japan began his first year as high school student in the United States and senior, Vinicius Vasconcelos, better known as Vini, an exchange student from Brazil brought a new touch to the game.

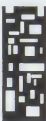
"The practices are very different from back home, but soccer is an international language that can be used anywhere in the world," remarked senior Vasconcelos.

Although both Kobayashi and Vasconcelos came across differences playing in the States, both admit they have learned from the other boys on the team and in return taught them. Whether it was introducing Vasconcelos to the wonders of the s'more at a soccer team beach party or learning about the Japanese culture, this season is one that will be remembered.

"I learned to speak better English and I made many new friends," added Kobayashi about his first year playing American soccer here at PHS.

The boys ended their season 13-6 and sadly lost their third sectional game to long time rival, Valparaiso. All and all it was a good season, and as in every sport, full of ups and downs. From the awkward bus rides home after a loss, to the spirited dance parties and singing on the bus after a victory, or the pasta dinners before a game, this group of boys worked together to make their season its best. They made Portage proud with every game they played.

With a few moments left till game time, sophomore Dave Gutierrez and juniors Radley Alcantara and Jordan Tuthill, take a short rest before running out to the field for another exciting game.







## Kristopher Evans (Ev)

Varsity Soccer  
Sweeper/ Stopper (#8)



**Q** How long have you been playing soccer and what other teams have you played on?

**A** I've been playing 9 years and I have also played for NWI United 87 Portage NW.

**Q** Do you play any other sports and which do you prefer?

**A** I also play basketball, but I enjoy playing soccer more than basketball.

**Q** What do you plan on doing after school?

**A** I plan on becoming an architect, I would like to attend Notre Dame or Ball State.

**Q** If you could have one super power what would it be?

**A** I would have super speed because I need to be so many places at once and I need to go from place to place fast.



With a well-practiced play at hand, sophomore Johnathan Lopez dribbles the ball down the soccer field. Lopez successfully allowed Portage to score one more point in this game.

With many accomplished seasons behind them the seniors say their good-byes at the annual Senior Night. Senior Dan Biby, along with others, happily accept small gifts of appreciation.

While rushing down the field, teammates and opponents move out of the way as junior Jared Engel flies after the ball. Full of momentum Engel makes his way down with amazing speed.



In attempt to fend off a competitor freshman Lauren Hodges sprints in a neck and neck competition against one of Hobart's girls. Hodges has been involved in soccer for many years throughout her life.

In a fight for control sophomore Samantha Labno fights to trap the ball. Labno was one of the few sophomores on the varsity team.



## Soccer Star: Tasha Sever

**Q** What do you feel is the best part of being a member of the soccer team?

**A** I have been able to meet so many girls and make a ton of new friends.

**Q** What goals did you set as a team this season?

**A** We wanted to win the Duneland Athletic Conference, sectionals, and regionals.

**Q** Does the team have any traditions you perform prior to games?

**A** We do passes, thigh and chest volleys 5 vs. 2, and take shots before each game.

**Q** What do you believe was the biggest challenge for the team this season?

**A** Our biggest challenge was that we were a young team and knowing everyone expected us to lose.



After taking a hit from an opponent freshman Kristen Knuth lies on the field in pain. Knuth's bad knee was an injury from prior into the season.

While gaining possession and trapping the ball in mid air sophomore Amanda Klinger gains possession. Klinger is also a member of the tennis team.





# Beating the Odds

In the midst of the girl's senior night festivities Senior Lindsey Warfield is escorted onto the field. Warfield was given a crown which expressed the team's gratitude towards her hard work



Ending their season with a record of 4-8-1 for junior varsity and 9-8-2 for varsity the girl's soccer team has undoubtedly had a tough season. Though the girls have been faced with somewhat of an upward struggle, in the end it has only verified how strong and devoted this team truly is.

A new coaching staff was one of the adjustments the team had to make right off the bat. The varsity team was now under the jurisdiction of husband and wife duo Aaron and Aimee Rhamer. Junior varsity was once again, led by former coach, Leslee Kretz. "The new coaches this year were a huge improvement, opposed to our coaches in the years past. They were much more strict with us, and I think their coaching techniques helped us immensely. They pushed us hard throughout our season because they knew we had potential," explains sophomore Megan Rodriguez.

Another bump in the road these girls had to endure was going from a team almost completely made up of experienced seniors to a team with a total of only two, Lindsey Warfield and Jacqueline Barnum. The majority of the team this season consisted of underclassmen.

The new coaches quickly whipped the girls, old and new, into shape. Their season began early into the summer and continued on throughout late October. To aid the girls in preparing for the season to come two-a-days were held a few weeks prior to final cuts being made.

"Once our season began practices were held five times a week. We worked on various drills such as first touches, passes, and

sprints. We conditioned all the time," stated sophomore Melanie Griffin. Season games may not have always gone as the team had planned, but for the majority of the year the girls were able to pull through with a victory. The first few games seemed to be the toughest part of the season, and after that everybody began to mesh together completely.

"During our first few games it was difficult to play together because not all of us were used to each other on and off the field. After spending a large amount of our time together throughout the season we became closer to one and other and performed much better, even if our season didn't go as well as we had hoped. We all learned from the all the other girls on the team," explains freshman Camryn Leveritt.

Towards the later part of the season it became evident that the girls luck was changing. The team's goal of winning two games in a row was finally met; they won their last two games of the season against Merrillville and Hobart.

With high spirits the varsity girls went up against LaPorte in the first round of sectionals. The team defeated Laporte with a score of two to zero. Two days later the varsity team then faced Chesterton in the second round of sectionals. Unfortunately the girls fell a bit short and lost to Chesterton in a close match that ended in double overtime.

This year's season has undeniably been a roller coaster of ups and downs. In the end it has become evident that these girls are extremely committed to their sport and stick with it through thick and thin.



In a hurry to reach the ball, sophomore Melanie Griffin sprints ahead. Griffin is also involved in this year's musical, Smoke Joe's Cafe as a choreographer.

Prior to the girl's varsity game the team lines up on the field to honor their seniors. Jacqueline Barnum and Lindsey Warfield were the only two seniors on the team this season.



At one of their many practices, junior Christina Stewart drives the ball. As part of the varsity team, Stewart went to practices two weeks longer than the J.V. Team.

After teeing off at the sectional match in Valparaiso, senior Karl Campbell concentrates on her ball to see where it lands. This was Campbell's fourth year on the team.



Photo by Jovanny Sanchez



Photo by Andrew Culp



The girls listen intently while the Valparaiso coach John Knauff explains the rules and regulations of the sectional match in Valparaiso. The team placed third at the match.

On the third hole of the sectional match at the Valparaiso Country Club, junior Lisa Whitworth sets her ball as she gets ready to tee off. Whitworth went on to make par on the hole.





# Despite New Assistant

coach, girls golf team

## Finishes Seventh

Story by: Andrew Culp

Finishing the 2004-2005 season with a record of 12-4 and 3-4 in the DAC, the girls Varsity/JV Golf team's final rank was 7th in the region.

Even so, the girls put in plenty of hard work practicing for their matches. Practices began on July 30th and went through the end of August. The girls on the varsity team practiced two weeks longer than the JV girls. During the summer, practices took place at Robbinhurst from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.. During school, practices were from 3:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.. New to the team this year is what Coach Tom Milakovic referred to as a welcome addition to the staff, Jeff Smith, who acted as the assistant coach to the team.

"I enjoyed working with the girls in their golf skills," said Smith. "The girls were a lot of fun to be around and worked hard on their golf game."

The fun that the girls partook in extended well past the practices and matches. One member of the team came up with the idea of getting the team together for a special breakfast.

There was also fun at get-togethers like a haunted bonfire at the coach's house. "My best memory was definitively the haunted house at coach's house," said sophomore Cecelia Martinez. "Lisa Whitworth, Jennifer

Hyde, and I went back to coach's house to go to the bathroom. On the way back, the girls jumped out at us and scared us so bad. It was a very fun night."

Even with all the fun and games, there were still a few bad memories.

"The feeling of Karl Campbell expecting to go to state and lost by a stroke was the worst feeling, especially for Karl," says junior Christina Stewart.

Not all the girls had bunches of fun, though. Junior Rianne Doherty thought that being on the team was a waste of time. She had plenty of negative things to say about the team.

"I put a lot into it and didn't get anything out of it," Doherty says. "The coach never played me. One day, he told me I was playing in a match, but then said someone else was going in my position. Then, he got mad because I went home." With a final rank of 7 and an all around record of 12-4, the 2004-2005 girls Golf Team feels confident about their performance. Coach Milakovic feels as though the team played up to their ability, often exceeding it. With the addition of Smith as Assistant Coach, the girls' skills were tested during their practices. With plenty of good memories about the season, a fun and enjoyable time was had by all on the girls golf team.

**What made  
you decide  
to take up  
golf?**



"My grandpa plays golf and I really admired my grandpa."

■ ■ ■ Sand flies as junior Lauren Ruzga attempts to get her ball out of the bunker of the second hole during the sectional match. This was Ruzga's third year on the team.



# Teamwork is the Strength of the team

Story by: Eric Rodriguez

This season, Portage Boys Tennis Team did an excellent job. They were 7-5 and 3-4 this season in DAC. It was the 3<sup>rd</sup> best record out of the rest of the Duneland teams as opposed to last season when they placed last. This season, the tennis team was lead by co-captains Jose Collazo and Marc Jones.

This tennis season was the last one at Portage High School for top varsity players: Jose Collazo, Marc Jones, Eli Collazo, Matt Engel, Kevin Dixon, and Kris Enstrom.

"We're all seniors and we have been playing since we really young. We all know each other really well. This is the best season we have had," said Eli.

Two strong competitors have emerged from this season, Collazo and Jones. Collazo and Jones first teamed up during their sophomore season. However, the pair did not play together last year. Collazo teamed up with his brother Jose Collazo. The pair did not do as well at doubles. So this season Collazo and Jones were reunited.

"Since Eli and Marc had played together, the communication was there and I thought they would definitely click this year," Portage coach Vanessa George said.

The pair went 21-4 overall and earned second place honors at the Merrillville Tourney. The pair has changed for the better since they first played together their sophomore year.

"When we were sophomores, when we first played, we weren't giving each other credit," Eli said. "This year we give each other credit. We don't get mad at each other anymore. Sophomore year we used to get mad at each other and not play as tough"

This was the last season for Mrs. George's top varsity player.

"This will definitely be a bittersweet end for me since I have coached these athletes since most of them were freshmen. Quite a few of them have lettered for a number of years. This is a good group of guys," George said.

## What is your greatest tennis accomplishment?



David Larson



Kris Enstrom

"My greatest tennis accomplishment was when I aces on my serve against the other team."

"My greatest tennis accomplishment was when I started on junior varsity and when I end up with a better record."

In anticipation for the game to start, Coaches Mr. Kramer and Mr. and Mrs. George, wait on the curb. Unfortunately, they lost to Valparaiso with the score of 3-2.

Photo By: Agnieszka Mielke



Head held high, senior David Larson puts his hard practice to use as he served the ball.

Practice is an important way to enhance your tennis skills and techniques.

Eyes concentrating forward, senior Kris Enstrom focuses on the tennis ball, waiting to score a point. Enstrom was part of the varsity team this season.

Photo By: Agnieszka Mielke







Before a tennis match against Andean, junior Brent Cook shakes hands with the opposing team members. Cook has been on the tennis team since his freshman year.

With great hand-eye coordination senior Kevin Dixon hits the ball over the net hoping for a winning point. Hand-eye coordination is an important skill in tennis, as in any sport.



Photo By: Jeff Jones



Photo By: Jeff Jones



Photo By: Jeff Jones

Eyes focused on the ball, senior Matt Helpingstine aims for the ball. Helpingstine tries to score a point in the sectionals against Valparaiso.

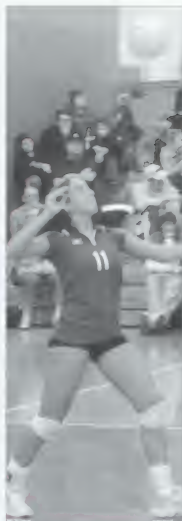
Ready with anticipation, senior Marc Jones is waiting to hit the ball. Jones, like Cook, has been playing since his freshman year.



Right before a match the team takes a few seconds to chat and pump one another up. Strong friendships are formed between the girls on the team to prepare them for the game.



Well prepared senior Cara Horner is ready to spike the ball back over the net. Horner is very impressive being one of the seniors on the varsity team.



## Second Servings For Girls Volleyball

Story by Kimberly Hadden

The girls Varsity volleyball team has had a tough but a respectful year. There have been small mistakes made that have shown a difference in their scores. These mistakes have improved their game by learning from their experiences.

"The team has done very well this year despite the record, yet we have not lived up to our full potential," stated senior Nicole Gaffin.

The team has been putting overtime in at practices, adding a full hour more than in the previous years. Practices are now held from three o'clock to six o'clock P.M., Monday through Friday. On Saturdays nine o'clock am to eleven o'clock am. The practices have also been more focused on perfecting their technique so when it comes to playing an actual game the girls have all the skills to win.

"This year the team has improved greatly due to the practices we have had which are tougher and more involved, we also have been working on a lot of technique this year," Junior Danielle Leimbach explained.

The team was pretty confident going into sectionals, and believed they were more than capable to do very well there.

"This year we truly believed we could take it all the way at sectionals, but I still feel we did fairly well!" Gaffin said.

The team won two out of three sectional games, which is a pretty nice achievement.

The team is using themselves as their learning tool in how to better their playing skills. Before taking on a team for a second time they all gather to watch the taped game before, so they can see their own mistakes. This is beneficial because the girls will

know what to do next time they play the team again.

Another strategy they are trying is to move up JV players to varsity. The thought behind this move is simple; adding new players to the mix will liven and freshen the team. It will also just be something new to try. They are hoping that the younger girls will make the difference that is necessary for the sectional games.

The Varsity team has held its own with a record of 16-19 and DAC 6-8. The JV team has done an amazing job with a record of 24-2, the freshmen team also did very well with a record of 14-10. "I think the freshmen's season went

Another factor helping the ladies is, there are a larger number of seniors this year, which means more experienced players for the team. They also have a solid group of girls working together, which helps when it comes to teamwork. Volleyball is a sport where working with one another is very extremely well. We worked hard and everyone improved greatly, we won games and we lost them, but we had fun through it all," stated freshmen Holly Percifield.

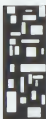
Aside from records all three teams have learned this year something very important by admitting when errors were made. Positive things can come from this and also by being humble because they can improve on what they need to be doing this. The girls have done great with this in game vs. teams they have already had matches with; they were more prepared to serve up a great score the second time around. There is a great outlook for next year's season.







While demonstrating team work, Junior Varsity members work hard to save the ball from failing. Teamwork is an essential skill in order to play volleyball.



Ready for any play that may come their way, seniors Nicole Catlin and Ashley Smith stand in position. This year the team has focused a lot of their time on perfecting technique.



## Why do you *enjoy playing* volleyball



"I love volleyball because you make good friends, it is a fun sport to play and besides it is a great workout."

*Daniella Leimbach, junior*



A quick response is necessary for volleyball. Senior Amy Slamkowski goes up quickly to set the ball. Slamkowski is a dominant and important player on the court.



In the air, preparing for the ball to come her way, sophomore Annalisha Turner sets up for a spike. Before the game, each member of the volleyball team practices to strengthen their skill.

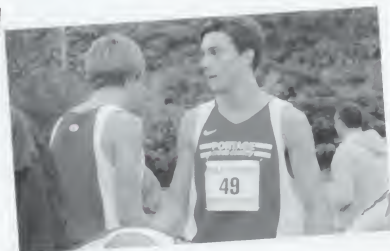




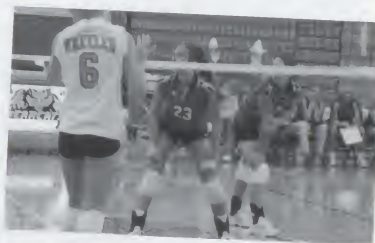














# Making A Statement...

The portage wrestling program will forever be infamous in many aspects. Anyone who knows anything about wrestling knows that there is much hard work and dedication that goes into becoming one of Portage's elite wrestlers. These boys realize that they possess something commonly strived for, an unfathomable reputation of being the greatest. The greatest meaning a group of young men who have dominated a sport with thirteen consecutive DAF titles. No program has ever done that, in any sport, at any school, in either gender, ever.

"The dual meet victories and state championships are nice, but what's more important is that the boys are learning to take their effort and dedication into the real world," said head coach

Edward Pendoski.

Proving their element of success, seven of the varsity wrestlers made it to individual state. Although not all of the superior athletes on the wrestling team went to individual state, the team as a whole won all the titles leading up to team state where they qualified.

So after all these years of

impeccable records and reputations, what happens next when the men who started it all decide to retire? After eleven years of coaching for Portage, head coach Edward Pendoski and coach Larry Tharp have taken the opportunity to retire from the wrestling program. Pendoski received a prestigious offer to establish a wrestling academy in Indianapolis called CIA, Central Indiana Academy of Wrestling. This will allow Pendoski the chance to instruct many young and impressionable athletes on how to grow and develop into the distinctive wrestlers we have come to see within our own portage community.

As a last good-bye, Pendoski left his wrestlers with some final words to lead them into their seasons to come, "It is much more difficult to leave than I thought it would be. We've spent a lot of time in The Room. We say that every one of us in there has laughed, cried, bled, and worked until our bodies could do no more. I will always remember the time spent in Portage and the kids that have come through The Room and I am thankful that I got to be a part of such a great experience."

Story and pictures by Katherine Betts



Steadily pressuring his man, senior Bradley Kemp attempts to get his opponent's shoulder on the mat. Kemp, as well as all bystanders, knows that once in this position it's all over for the other guy.

As an attempt to flip his opponent over onto his back, senior Alfredo Sanchez continues to push down on his head. Forcing his man's head down will help Sanchez gain control of the match.







While junior Adam Walters struggles to keep his composure over his opponent, the pain becomes strikingly apparent on his face. After a strenuous match, Walters takes home the victory to give the opponent his first and only loss.

As junior Erik Rhein continues to wear out his opponent, he slowly lets him back up. Not even concerned with the one point he gave away, Rhein ends up taking the match with his opponent eventually forfeiting.



## How do you feel about the coaches leaving after this season?



"I'm just disappointed that the coaches won't be there for my senior year. They've done so much for me that it'll be hard to adapt to new coaches in just one year."

*Chad Biddle, junior*

"It's definitely going to be different next season, but I'm happy for Coach P. We'll all miss him, but we're glad that he's taking the great opportunity that he is, because he deserves it."

*Matthew Henry, junior*



"I'm going to miss the coaches because they taught all of us so much about wrestling, as well as life. They'll always be a part of Portage wrestling."

*Andrew Magara, junior*



"We're so use to the way things have always been done, next year will be so different. I just hope that we get new coaches who understand the portage wrestling program."

*Jason Juszcak, sophomore*

As an attempt to gain more points, sophomore Joshua Young stands up and tries to escape from his opponent's grip. Getting out from this position will give Young one point, which could be vital in a close match.





Out-of-Bounds



Neutral Position



Defer Choice



Reversal



Near-Fall



Awarding Points  
Left/Right Hand



With being one of the youngest wrestlers on the varsity team, sophomore Ryan Vottero certainly is not one of the least experienced. With time to spare, Vottero takes a quick glance towards his coaches to receive some advice and instructions.

After wrestling for a strenuous amount of time, senior Dantel Zemlik pressures his opponent down on the mat so he can take a moment to breathe. Finishing the season with a knee injury, Zemlik ended up taking second at state.

As senior John Hesselstine holds his opponent against the mat, he looks up at the clock to check out the seconds remaining. After putting the opponent in his signature move, a spladle, he quickly pins him for a victory.



Slowly pacing around his opponent, senior Anthony "A-Train" Espinoza waits for the moment he can take a shot at his man. In the heavier weight classes, the opportunity to take a shot is rare. When an athlete does have an opening to take one, he must take full advantage of it.

As an attempt to snap his opponent down, senior Michael Leucuta steadily pressures his man to the mat to gain the advantage. As a senior wrestling Varsity since his freshmen year, Leucuta received a second place at the state championship for his senior year.



Stalemate



Stalling Left/Right Hand



Caution - False Start or Incorrect Starting Position



Potentially Dangerous Left/Right Hand



Illegal Hold or Unnecessary Roughness



Unsportsmanlike Conduct



# Nothing Like

Teamwork and

## Friendship

This year the girls' gymnastics team had some high points as well as some low points. But, through it all, they had a lot of fun.

"It is really fun and I get a lot of exercise doing it. It gives me something to do after school that I enjoy," stated sophomore Cassie Cain.

Throughout the season the girls built a strong friendship. Many of the girls came to the team knowing each other and others didn't know each other before the season started but they all became very close.

"I enjoyed spending time with the team and getting to know the new girls," said junior Alycia Laboy.

The girls also became very close with their coaches throughout the season. They all said their coaches were always there for them anytime they needed someone to talk to.

Jessica Metz stated, "My most memorable moment is T-Ping the coaches houses."

The girls also had many things that inspired them to do gymnastics. They all had people that influenced them.

"I have been in it since I was five and I wasn't going to give up on it when I got to high school," stated Cassie Cain.

All the girls on the team have been doing gymnastics for many years and love every minute of it.



Photo by Megan Richmond

It always feels good after an event to get compliments from team members. Junior Ashley Sandlin is congratulating her teammate on a job well done after her amazing performance.

It takes a lot of determination and concentration in gymnastics. Freshman Sarah Rosser is concentrating on her balance beam routine which is one of the most difficult events.

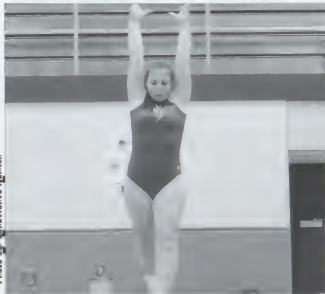


Photo by Kristina Smith

### Gymnastics Star: Alycia Laboy



Q & A

- Q** What is your most memorable moment while in gymnastics?  
**A** I think every moment is memorable with us and you never know what's going to happen.  
**Q** Do you have any role models that you look up to in gymnastics?  
**A** All the coaches I've ever had in gymnastics have been my role models.  
**Q** Why did you want to be on the gymnastics team?  
**A** Gymnastics has always been part of my life... I can't get rid of it, nor do I want to.  
**Q** What is your favorite part of gymnastics?  
**A** Spending time with friends and teammates and being able to excel in something that I enjoy.



Gymnastics is a sport that requires a lot of durability. Junior Jessica Metz is showing the ability of durability needed for the uneven bars.

When on the balance beam poise is everything in gymnastics. Sophomore Laura Zack shows the skill needed to perform well on the beam.



Photo by *Gymnastics Northwest*



Photo by *Gymnastics Northwest*



Photo by *Gymnastics Northwest*

The uneven bars is a very difficult event in gymnastics because you must have good strength in your arms and be flexible. Junior Alison Horner shows the much needed concentration and strength needed to perform a flawless performance on the uneven bars.



After getting control of the puck, freshman Clint Konchar tries to bring the puck around to his teammates. With the speed that the boys skate at, it can sometimes be very hard for them to keep their balance.



Photo By: Megan Richmond

Photo By: Megan Richmond



It is very important to keep your eyes on the puck so that you know where it is at all times. Sophomore Mack Wozniak tries to get to the other end of the rink while keeping the puck in his sight.

As his coach kneels over him, freshman Ryan Richmond tries to fight off the tears after being hit hard in the chest during one of his games. Many players had sustained a variety of injuries over the course of the season.

Photo By: Cody Jones



## Bio On A Hockey Star

**Joshua Farley**

**Grade:** Senior

**Age:** 18

**Number:** 22

**Position:** Left defense and the team captain

**Favorite Movie:** Slap Shot

**Ice Hockey Hero:** Bobby Orr

**Hobbies:** Drumming, sleeping, and playing poker

**Motto:** If you can't slap it, snap it

**Plans After High School:** Take a year off and then hopefully go to Michigan University

**Proudest Moment:** Being chosen to play on the Portage Ice Hockey team my freshman year





# Who inspires you to play Ice Hockey?



"I just saw it on T.V. and I thought that it would be fun to play so when the opportunity came, I jumped at the chance to play."

*Leuden Becker, Freshman*

"No one really inspired me to play ice hockey. I saw other people playing and then my friends got me interested in it."

*Christopher (Muck) Crowder, Freshman*



"I was tired of playing roller hockey and Joshua Farley was trying to get an ice hockey team together, so I just jumped at the opportunity to play."

*John Fischer, Freshman*



Photo By Megan Richmond



Photo By Megan Richmond

After the referee puts the puck into play, sophomore Austin Konchar hits it away from one of Mayton's team members during one of the face-offs. Konchar is one of three centers on the Portage Ice Hockey team.

The goalie has to be sure to watch what everyone on the ice is doing while defending the net. Sophomore Tyler Spoolstra follows the puck behind the net while it is passed off to our team captain.



One should always be prepared, because you never know what can happen next. Freshman Craig Knickerbocker tries to prepare himself to accept the pass from a fellow teammate.

## Portage Indians Back On The Ice

After a year in hiatus The Portage Ice Hockey Club is back in action. Senior, Joshua Farley is the one responsible for getting the team back together. After months of determination, Farley finally acquired the team that he wanted.

Farley spent much of his free time at Camelot Bowling Alley refereeing some of the roller hockey games that went on there. During that time Farley had the idea to try to get some of the roller hockey kids to play on the ice. After the team fell apart two years ago Farley's main goal was to try to get the team back for his senior year. "I really wanted to be able to play ice hockey my senior year." Stated Farley. "I was really excited when we finally had enough players to play and no one backed out like they did last year."

During Farley's junior year they almost had a team, but there were just too many problems to get it off the ground. The first problem came up when they couldn't decide what rink to play at and then the Valparaiso Ice hockey team wanted some of the Portage's players. By the time the season was ready to start, they only had nine people on the roster and because of the lack of players they were not allowed to play.

Now, after all of Farley's hard work, the Portage Ice Hockey Club has a team. The team consists of seventeen boys from Hobart, River Forest, Clay, Valparaiso,

and of course, Portage. These boys may be from different schools, but they have come together to become the best team that they can be.

After everything that the team has been through over the years, one can only hope that the organization continues. The school gives no support to the team what so ever. Everyone on the team pay about \$1500 dollars a year. Their coach, Mitch Frankowski, even says "you pay you play."

The boys even have to provide their own transportation out to South Bend every week for practice and games. You would think that all of it would be worth it, but no one even knows that Portage has a team.

"I really stinks that my friends don't know that we have a team, let alone that I am on it," says freshman Alex Proper. "My friends want to come to the games, but when they find out that it is in South Bend they don't want to because of the drive."

Despite the lack of support the boys have grown and will hopefully have a better season next year. The organization can now only hope to become as good as the team was its last year before it folded.

"I just really hope that they can get back into the swing of things and be as good as they were my sophomore year." Says Farley. We had the best team my sophomore year and I really just hope that they can pull together and start winning again."

Photo By Megan Richmond



As the sectional meet is about to begin, sophomores, Jessica Davidson and Hollie Piers, wait for their turn to practice. Before the meets teammates warm up together in the water.



## Girls Swimming and Diving Make Splash, Supporting Team

Despite the injuries, strenuous practices, and physical exertion, the girls of the Portage High School Swimming and Diving team, pulled together and became a true team. After a rigorous season, the girls still came out pleased on the accomplishments and goals that they had achieved.

"The goals this season that we had, were for pretty much everyone to get along, everyone to go to practice when they could, us to have good times, and to just have fun," states freshman, Emily Brennan.

Not only did the girls become a close team, but the team truly felt supported by their coaches as well. As the season progressed they truly began to bond.

Michelle Arnold exclaims, "Coach Rushing is the best diving coach there is! Don't let anyone tell you different. He's got his good and bad days, but so do I. We joke around though, and it really makes my day!"

There are many factors that have driven the team this season, one of them being a motivational quote that kept them going through the rough times.

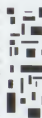
"Our favorite quote this season was 'The doors of success swing on the hinges

of determination. Why do we do it? Because it works! Why? Because it works! WHY! Because it works! because one morning a boys basketball coach was saying it very seriously and we all found it hysterical," recalls Junior, Natalie Kovachevich. For the girls to come together they had to overcome their differences and focus on the main goal of working to the best of their abilities and becoming a family. This lesson was learned in past years among the swimmers of previous seasons.

"Though our record was not great our teamwork was. We all had... respect for each other, which was shown through cooperation and willing to undergo difficult tasks. We actually had a team this year compared to past seasons. There was no drama and the girls bonded well. We all worked so well and kept each other motivated each day. I love my team; it was a very rewarding season," concurs Senior, Tiare Parker. The team pulled through and set their priorities straight, putting their teammates first over winning. Despite their record, the season was truly a success.



A group of swimmers converse as they count laps for their teammates. It is customary for the girls to cheer for their athletes while they are competing relentlessly in the water.





Anxiously awaiting the results of the race, sophomores, Ashley Wood and Melissa Padlo, sit pool side. Awaiting the results can be a trying and pain staking task that no swimmer likes.

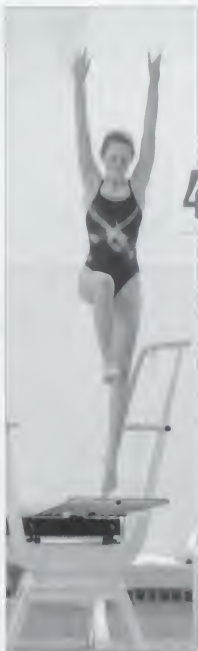


To make it into the next meet, Amanda Klinger, sophomore, tries her hardest to make good time. In order to qualify for DAC the girls must place high enough to get in.



As the competition comes to a start, Danielle Richardson, sophomore, prepares herself before her dive. Endurance and spunk are essential when it comes down to the final second.

Before the meet, sophomore Theresa Caluag warms up in the water. Rigorous practice and team work are what has strengthened the team so much this during this season.



**At what point did you realize how close you were becoming?**



"It was when I was walking into the E.R. and seeing the tears in Natalie's eyes and the rest of the swim team after Natalie's car wreck. That was the point when I realized how close we were."



At the Crown Point meet, sophomore Michael Sobierajski sits and watches the races. While they are not participating, the swimmers and divers watch their teammates swim.



As he stands in the water, senior Eric Mundt takes a moment to prepare mentally for his next swim. Composure and focus are two main elements to swimming success.



Photo by: Kenneth Meyer



Photo by: Jennifer Wang

After his dive, freshman Edward Arteaga takes a look at his score. It takes hard work, total dedication as well as complete determination to be an excellent diver.



While one of their teammate's race, junior Christopher Allmandinger and sophomore Sean Toomey, cheer. It is customary for the team to encourage their teammates.



Photo by: Kenneth Meyer





# Several years of a Legacy Comes to an End

Story by: Hannah McKee

After countless years of instructing his beloved swimming team and instilling lifelong lessons in its members, Mr. Ralph Mundt is quitting his position of coach. The swimmers who have been with him for several years as well as the newer swimmers will always remember his ability to help them through thick and thin.

"[He was] supportive, but sometimes seemed a bit mean. But, I know in the end [he] was just trying to improve me," said sophomore Edward Giordano.

Portage's swimming regime is rare in that the coaches who lead these young individuals are really there for their swimmers and part of this is because of Coach Mundt's strong dedication to his team. He acts not only as their coach but as their companion as well as that is what draws attention to the team.

"Coming into this school, I expected to be pushed a lot harder and beyond and I was right. My coach last year was, and still is a good coach, but not with a good program like Portage who has to be one of the best programs in the region," stated junior Justin Hertl who transferred to Portage just this year.

This season was just like its predecessors for the swimmers and divers, with its share of ups and downs. The team seemed to have the same feeling as to what their most memorable moments were as well as their challenges.

"Practice [was hard], but I think the hardest thing was learning how to swim fast and how to keep on fighting," said sophomore Asa Reid.

Although the record was not great, the swimmers put forth a great effort and should be commended for their achievements because they truly did their best.

Photo by: Jennifer Neely

## Q & A Swimming Star: Jacob Anderson

- Q** What is your age?  
**A** 17
- Q** What events do you participate in?  
**A** The 100 fly and the 200 free.
- Q** What are your plans for after high school?  
**A** I want to attend Purdue University and possibly swim there.
- Q** What else are you involved in?  
**A** The Portage Porpoises
- Q** What are your goals for next season?  
**A** To break the school record in the 100 fly and qualify for state.



Photo by: Jennifer Neely



Photo by: Jennifer Neely

- Q** Completely focused on his race, sophomore Jordan Bailey swims with success. It is important for each swimmer to be concentrated on their races while swimming.

- Q** Before the beginning of his race, junior Radley Alcantara perfects his stroke by practicing. Practice is an essential element to swimming as it helps each swimmer achieve his goals.





After a time-out, the girls are ready for a brilliant play to be brought forth. The Indians have all had their own role in the games throughout the season. Each player was vital to success.



Aware of her teammates around her, senior Amy Samplawski waits to make the perfect pass. Samplawski has played basketball for the Indians since freshman year.



## Heather Markwell

**Age:** 18

**Grade:** Senior

**Position:** 3 Guard

**Pump up song:** Give it all-Rise Against

**Favorite Movie:** Requiem for a dream

**Plans after high school:** After high school I'd like to be a radiographer.

**Proudest Moment:** When I was thirteen years old my AAU team won state. I



Above the three point line, freshman Lisa Samplawski looks for an open teammate. Samplawski has made a tremendous effort for the Indians. She will be a vital player next season.

With intense exhilaration, senior Nicole Catlin drives to the basket. The senior has played basketball for PHS since freshman year. Catlin is a great element to the team this year.







After a pass from one of her teammates, sophomore Kasey Kornacki looks for an open shot. Kornacki has played for the Indians for several years along with teammates from middle school.



Ball in hand, senior Tracy Markwell shoots with authority. Practice makes perfect when Markwell scores the Indians an easy basket. Markwell also plays with her twin Heather Markwell on the team.



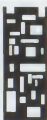
Ready to drive through the lane, freshman Gloria Hernandez makes sure to pick the perfect spot. Hernandez was chosen to play on the varsity team this year.



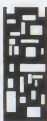
Dribbling the ball to make a shot is something that freshman Amy Czupryn excels at. She says her skills were acquired from playing basketball her whole life.



A free throw was awarded to senior Olivia Leggett when she was knocked down to the ground by an opposing team member. The girls are like a family and circle in fear as a member is hurt.



No, they are not doing jumping jacks! Freshman Brittany Buzea and, sophomore Kacey Kornacki are all trying to retrieve control of the ball.





An unjust push was just the thing, freshmen Brittany Buzea, needed to earn her a free shot at the net. Look at the air born star show off her talent.

It's hard to keep your eye on the ball while your being blocked just ask freshman Kim Almone. She loves the thrill of the game.

## Spirits are high with the power of girls

This year our girls might not have come out on top of the charts, but that's not what matters to them. They have made friends with new people and that's what they care about.

"We may have a losing season but we are still a family," stated freshman Ashleigh Janiga. The teams have stayed very close.

Being so close is what keep the teams going through the wins and losses. One of the most memorable wins for the freshman was the second time they played Chesterton for the second time.

"My favorite game was probably when we played Chesterton for the second time," stated whole freshman team. Unfortunately the team still lost.

It was tough for the girls. "We tried so hard," stated Gloria Hernandez. The Junior Varsity team

finished the season with a decent overall record. The freshman finished with a record of five wins and twelve losses.

"You never know how hard it is till you've tried it," freshman Kim Almone still wants every one to know.

Even with their losing season the team still keep up their hopes by attending practices and keeping close with other teammates. Each and every girl know that it takes team work to win a game. Not only do the girls give it their all in their games, they also train vigorously at their practices.

"We do drills conditioning plays reviewing and occasionally a lot of running," freshman Jamie Kasper said.

This was a great year for our girls. Most of the girls are planing there return to the team next year for another great season and next year will be even better!

### What Inspired you to be on the basketball team?



Julie Kasper



Emily Sp

Ever since I was little I loved playing sports. I started playing basketball when I was six years old. Basketball is a sport that just became something natural to me.

My friends really inspired me to play basketball. I have also known the coaches for quite some time so that was also a factor. Basketball is something I really enjoy.



As sophomore Sam Labno goes for the lay up she keeps her eyes on the net. An anxious teammate watches from the bench in awe.

It is hard to be the shortest girl on the team but her teammates do not mind nor does freshman Felicia Williamson. Here she is shooting the first basket of the game.



## Better luck next time Ground

This year the coaches worked hard to get their team up to stance. With practices going five days a week and occasionally on Saturday, one could say this team was ready. As the season panned out the Portage Indians found it was harder than they thought to keep an unbeatable record intact.

"Our season wasn't that great. We didn't win as many games as expected and we lost a lot of close game," stated senior Jake Bryan.

Despite some of the struggle in the beginning of the year, around the last five games of the season the team started coming together, winning, and playing as one.

This helped them get into sectionals. They played their best in the first round against Merrillville, but shots started getting missed in the second half and passes were stolen. Eventually this led the team to fall to Merrillville.

"It was a short, but sweet season. We had our good days and our bad, but when we had a

good day you would think we were the best team in the conference," explained junior, Andrew Stills.

Ending their season with a record of 9-12, it was a rough year. Hardworking players gave their hearts to the game, but to some it didn't seem to pay off. Leading point scorer Buster Battreal had an average of 15.8 points this season.

"This year had its ups and downs. As the leading scorer, I reached a personal goal for myself and that made this year more worth while even though we didn't play our best," said senior Buster Battreal.

Coaching staff consists of Steve Bartos and Richard Kretz. Every year is different, along dealing with new players and new attitudes. This team was made up of almost all upperclassmen so it seemed they worked well together.

"All of these guys played together since they were little kids so they knew how to get things done," stated coach Bartos.

Jody Lee Justice Balint



Patiently waiting to come into the game, senior Kevin Dixon, watches his teammates. When called in he plays shooting guard. He has been playing for 14 years.

Up against Merrillville, senior Anthony Leal dribbles with skill around his opponent. Junior Andrew Repay guards his opposition, to protect the ball from being stolen.







After getting fouled Senior Buster Battreall shoots a free throw. Battreall has been playing for twelve years. Like most athletes he feels the biggest reward of playing is winning.

Speed, skill, and coordination are important characteristics of a basketball player. Senior Jake Bryan tries to keep the ball while making his way to the basket. His Merrillville opponent guards him.



## *Why does Ashley have alien*



"The thing I do is while "For each game I wear the National Anthem is black socks. I've been playing, I always pray doing it all year. They for us to play well and

"I listen to a mix cd with all my favorite songs on it to get me pumped and ready to play."



Silence fills the gym and opposing fans are chanting taunts. Senior Jake Bryan sets up to shoot a free throw, but is in use to the pressure. Bryan has been playing for twelve years.

The game is on and the stakes are high. Varsity team members watch their game being played. There are eleven players on the varsity team.



# Strength through Perseverance Determination through Willpower

This year the junior varsity and freshmen boys basketball players grew very close together even though they didn't have the best of seasons. They put their best efforts forth and sometimes that wasn't enough.

"I was very happy when I found out I made the team," replied Andy Farmer. "I like to stay in shape when I play basketball."

There are many moments in the sport of basketball that are more memorable than others. Some moments throughout the season stood out more than others.

"My most memorable moment is when we went to 5 overtimes with Merrillville during freshmen year," replied Farmer.

It takes a lot of dedication and strong will to play basketball.

Some people don't know how much hard work and determination it takes to be on the team.

"I've been playing for about 10 years since I was 5 or 6 and never stopped," said Andrew Coban.

Many people that play basketball have different skills that they

enjoy in the sport of basketball. Some players like just dribbling the ball. Others like shooting free throws. Some like the playoffs the best.

Coban said, "Being competitive is my favorite part of playing basketball."

"My favorite part of playing basketball is the competition," replied Andy Farmer.

"My favorite part is getting to know more people, and hanging out with the team. Practices are fun too," said sophomore Eric Speer.

Many things inspire the players to be on the basketball team.

Some people have famous people that inspire them or just ordinary people.

"I have played since I was 6. I always use to love going to the park watching the older kids play," said Eric Speer.

Throughout the season the players made many friendships and had fun working together to be a team. They made many new friends and had many new experiences together.

Story by: Nikita Memele



Free throw shots can sometimes be game winning points. Here is Andy Farmer is taking a shot at the foul line.



Games can make you stressed out when things don't go your way. Sophomore Larry Long is feeling stressed because his team is not doing that well.



Photo by: Justice Bellini

Photo by: Jeremiah News

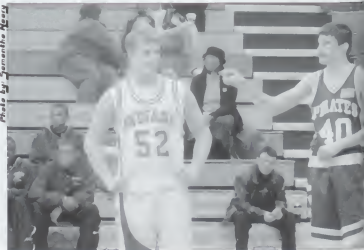






Photo by Jennifer Neely

The freshman boys taking a breather from the game as the opposing team is shooting free throws and anticipating to get the rebound. You rarely get chances for breathers in basketball.

Players are constantly being guarded in basketball. Sophomore Eric Ramian is looking for someone to pass the ball to.



Photo by Jennifer Neely

## Rio On B-ball star Andrew Stills

**Age:** 16  
**Grade:** Junior  
**Number on team:** 44  
**Position:** forward  
**B-ball heroes:** "Dr. J"  
**Favorite Food:** pizza  
**Favorite Singer:** Lil Wyte  
**Favorite Movies:** Eurotrip and Dude, Where's My Car  
**Favorite Moment:** Every game we win



Photo by Jennifer Neely

Players must maintain a strong defense as well as a strong offense. The JV team is trying to get the ball to the opposite end to score points to win the game and move to the playoffs.



# A B Team Squad

With an A Team Heart

Even though the B team Porter County Unified Indians didn't win any games, they shared a lot of experiences that they will remember for a lifetime.

The reason that they didn't win any games was because two of the games were against A teams, and they are only a B team.

But they didn't seem to care about the losses, as junior Aaron Beers remarked, "Our record is 0-3, but we really are better than our record shows."

Of course, all of the team members had different reasons for joining, but all seemed to share in common the love of the game and the compassion and the devotion to want to help others.

When Larry Long was asked why he decided to join the team he said, "I decided to join the team because I like playing basketball and I like knowing that I'm helping others."

All of the members said that they all have gained something from joining the team, and that they all have enjoyed the experiences.

"One of the most rewarding factors is knowing that I get to be a part of their team and help them achieve their goals and become better athletes," said freshman Stephan Marjanov.

Throughout their journey all of the players learned something valuable, that with a lot of love and friendship they can change another life for the better.



Photo by Teri Harrington



Photo by Teri Harrington

While getting ready for the game, sophomores Carl Ussery and Jason Epton get ready to throw around the ball. Taking a few practice shots can make all the difference.



When waiting to catch a rebound, the most important thing to do is to get ready to jump. Junior Aaron Beers is ready to leap, even though the shot that he took was nothing but net.



Photo by Teri Harrington

## Bio on a B-Ball Star

Rachel Reed

Grade: 11

Age: 17

Team: Porter County Unified Indians

Hobbies: If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always gotten.

Favorite Movie: The Notebook and Wicker Park

Favorite Artist: John Mayer and Counting Crows

"How Bad do you Want It?" by Tim McGraw and "Women With You" - Kenny Chesney

Hobbies: Hanging out with friends, playing on my computer, playing softball, listening to music, taking pictures, and sleeping.





Photo by Teri Harrington

As gazing on to the game with much anticipation, sophomore Larry Long and coach Ms. Tami Hudson hope for the win. Watching and waiting they all hope for the best.

Photo by Teri Harrington

With much determination freshman Josh Hudson takes the shot, being successful in his goal. Taking risky shots is sometimes how one makes the points rise in the game.

Photo by Teri Harrington

## *Why is it a good idea to have a team devoted to special needs kids?*



I think that it is a great idea to have a team for special needs kids. It lets them have the same opportunities.

I think that having this team is great. It helps the kids do better in doing activities in life.

Photo by Teri Harrington



Photo by Teri Harrington

Coaches have a hard job to do. It takes endurance, patience and determination. Coach Ms. Tami Hudson is training the team for their next quarter of the game, ready to win.

When keeping track of the other players, sophomore Jason Epson follows them with fortitude. Not taking one's eyes off of the other players is an excellent skill to encompass.





It is important in bowling to aim at the right pins for the perfect roll. Junior All-Star Cressel looks on as a ball rolls down the lane as others struggle to get a ball in the score.

Deliberation is the key to being a good bowler. Senior captain Robert Krosowick concentrates before throwing the ball, trying to get a perfect strike.



Photo by Megan Turner

Member of the boys team, Junior Benjamin and Dean, Jason look on as a ball rolls down the lane. Watching your team in action is a lot of fun. It is a good quality to have.

The boys can't wait to see the results. Senior Craig Vargas, Junior Benjamin Turner, and Junior Jason Patel, and Senior Craig Turner are watching the action as a ball rolls down the lane.



Photo by Megan Turner

## BORN TO BOWL BRANDON TURNER

- 1 What is your most memorable moment during the bowling season?  
Before we went to the finals, we got into a circle with a radio and started singing.
- 2 Do you have any embarrassing moments for the season?  
Yes, I went up there to bowl in a circle and in the middle of my approach, Ben De St. Jean came up and hit my ball, and I fell out of my lane.
- 3 What advice would you give a new bowler?  
I would tell them to just have fun. That's all, just have fun and enjoy your time.
- 4 Do you look up to anyone in bowling?  
I really look up to Craig Vargas, Josh Charters, and Ben De St. Jean because they are really great bowlers and they inspire me to do better.



# CHAMPS AMONG US

★ STORY BY JESSIE HODGINS

The bowling team is relatively new to PHS. It has been a part of our school for three years. It's amazing how we, as PHS students, can walk the halls, passing members of the bowling team and not even know that there is a team at our school.

"I was really offended when I told one of my friends that we won sectionals and they didn't even know our school had a bowling team," said sophomore Lauren Hokenson. To be a good bowler, you have to be dedicated to practice. The PHS bowling team practices every Thursday at Camelot bowling center. For most of us it isn't as easy as 1-2-3 to become a good bowler. We all know practice makes perfect.

"You must be able to concentrate. Do not get mad over bad breaks and always keep your head up," stated Junior Joshua Chartson after being asked what skills it takes to become a good bowler. The team is more than just bowling balls and pins. One needs team work and one needs to work hard together. When good bowlers join together, they bring home the gold. This year, the team made it to semi-state and the boy's team made it to state.

"When senior Craig Vargas was asked how it felt to make it to semi-state, he relied, "It feels great! At the beginning of the season Robbie Krooswyk and I said that we wanted to win everything this year since we are the captains."

Win, they did. This year the team won the DAC holiday tournament, the Baker tournament, and they were ranked number one in the state for over all team average. A lot of hard work and dedication went into making it this far for the team.

Over all, the bowling team did extremely well and will continue to do so with teamwork.

The girls take a little break to have a talk. Junior Brianna McCready, Allie Coates, Jenna Swell, and freshman Kate McCready are taking time out to talk about practice and new things.

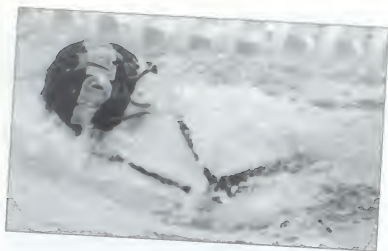




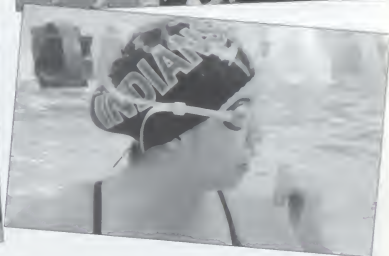














# Pitching their Way To Success

Photo By: Meredith McLeod

The softball team finished its season at an exceptional record of 19-10. Portage High School softball team has been

known for its great performance and athletic ability for sometime. This year the softball team has kept their reputation

stronger than ever. "Our season had its up and downs, but us girls stuck together and played as a great team this year." Stated junior

Colleen Scott.

The softball team mates this year have worked together and worked very well with one another this year. They all feel that their season went very well, however each team member had a personal goal that they wanted to meet.

"For my own personal goal, I should have become more confident in myself and to be a starter for the team."

proclaimed junior Ashley Norman.

The members of the softball team found their peers to be very helpful to them in the long run and also helped them to feel more confident in themselves.

"A prominent leader of the team was senior Amy Samplawski. She may boss or demand people sometimes, but she has more want and respect for us girls than anyone else does."

Stated Scott.

All in all the team played hard and did an exceptional job for their season of 2005.

Photo By: Meredith McLeod

Photo By: Meredith McLeod



Before the game against the Crown Point Bulldogs, senior Jessica Riffett practices with her fellow team mates. Riffett has been involved in softball her whole high school career.



Each member of the softball team is extremely important. Senior Tracy Markwell pitches to the other team showing her great skills in the game of softball.







Before the game took place for the day against the Crown Point Bulldogs, the team hits junior Samantha Meints hands to prepare her for the play ahead.



When ever the team makes a good shot, the members get together to congratulate the play that was made. The team comes together to high five each other for their team work.

## Did anyone inspire you to play softball?



Catherine Smith  
12

I have played softball since I was six years old. My mother convinced me that I would enjoy doing something physical.



Michelle Smith  
11

No one truly really inspired me to play softball. I just wanted to play on my own because softball was a personal interest to me.

Photo By: Erice Rodriguez



Photo By: Meredith McLeod



When junior Samantha Meints prepares for the play to come her way, she readily sets up for the ball. Meints has been involved in softball since her she was a freshman.



Before the game for the day, sophomore Samantha Griffith prepares with the team. Griffith played the catcher before the game to practice with her teammates.



A little time out to practice is just what senior Milton Rivera is taking time out to do. Waiting for his turn, he practices his swing off to the side of the player up to bat.

The key essential to baseball is a perfect pitch. Senior Zachary Bohling pitches the ball to the opposing team hoping that it looks good for the Portage Indians.



## Baseball team Pitches rough season: Hoping for the Best Next Year

Story and photos by Jaymine Rodriguez

Unity, said by more than one baseball player, is what it takes to be a good team.

"It takes team unity. You don't really have to like whom you are playing with, but you should respect them. Trust is something that teams need in order to be a team. If you don't trust your teammates to make the play, they probably won't trust you to execute," said by senior Zachary Bohling.

This season may not have gone as well as the boys would have liked it to go, but they stuck together to the end and made it. What they were lacking was team unity.

"I think that we could have done a lot better. We need to be more of a team. Our season wasn't that good because we weren't playing together," said by Junior Mark Dietz after being asked how he felt about this season's progress.

The boys are good and they will make it. They looked up from their difficult times and remembered all the good times they have had this season.

"Hanging out with rest of the players is the best part of being on the team," said senior Robbie Krooswyk.

### Baseball Star

Jeffery Disney

Age: 17

Fav. baseball player:

Roger Clemens

Favorite TV Show:

Sports Center

Favorite Movie:

Amityville Horror

Most memorable moment this season:

First good game was at Twin Lake.

Plans after High School: To go to college and play baseball.







The team watches anxiously from the dug out, as it is Portage's time to bat against the M.C. Wolves. Paying attention to your team mates will help you to learn from others mistakes.

Coaches are always there to look out for the best of their players. Coach Pirowski stands on the side to watch the Portage Indians as they strive toward their goal to come out on top.



Players Senior Marc Jones and Junior Michael Burke take a walk out onto the field to greet their team mates. They are excited that Portage has just scored some points!



No team can be complete with out an umpire to catch those not so perfect hits. Senior Andrew Dranchak is down and ready for the ball if it comes his way.



As the other team watches on, sophomore Andrew Bustos swings his bat with full power in hopes of hitting the ball. Power is very important to batting.



Ready to run, freshman Lucas Manoski leads off first while he carefully watches the pitcher. The runners must always be aware of where the ball is.



Before the start of the next inning, the junior varsity players crowd around to listen to their coach speak. Every player needs the encouragement of his coach to play his best.





## Good Beginnings mean Great Endings

Every year, the junior varsity and freshman baseball teams play their season while also preparing the players for the years to come and this year was no different. The coaches as well as the players know that every second played helps to ensure the quality of the teams to come.

"Our season went well because it was a learning experience and our team had a lot of fun doing it," said junior Erik Rhein.

The freshman and J.V. baseball teams play on the same schedule as the varsity team which gives them the opportunity to play the same individuals throughout high school. These

two teams also get a chance to learn how to work together with the other players on their team which helps them to further their success.

"Freshman and junior varsity seasons are preparation because we learn to work together with the same guys before going to varsity," said sophomore Thomas Bewley.

At the end of the year, the junior varsity and freshman baseball teams have developed in their skill and have learned to work together as a team. Their learning experiences in these levels will help stay with them throughout their high school years as baseball players.



### What is the best part about baseball?

"The best part about baseball is just getting to play and learning more about the sport."

*Matthew Henry, junior*

Several freshmen baseball players sit on the bench and watch as their teammates play on the field. The players are encouraged to cheer on their fellow players by their coaches.

As he waits for the pitch to be thrown, freshman Darrell Anderson gets in his catcher's position. A catcher must always be ready to take on whatever may come their way.





Balance and concentration are two big parts of stunting. Freshman Stephanie Bowman shows both as she does an arabesque during full time out.



The tiniest girls on the team are automatically flyers. Lib lines are a simple pyramid that looks hard and is easy to do. All smiles the girls cheer for the Varsity boys basketball team.



photo by Kelly Jurek

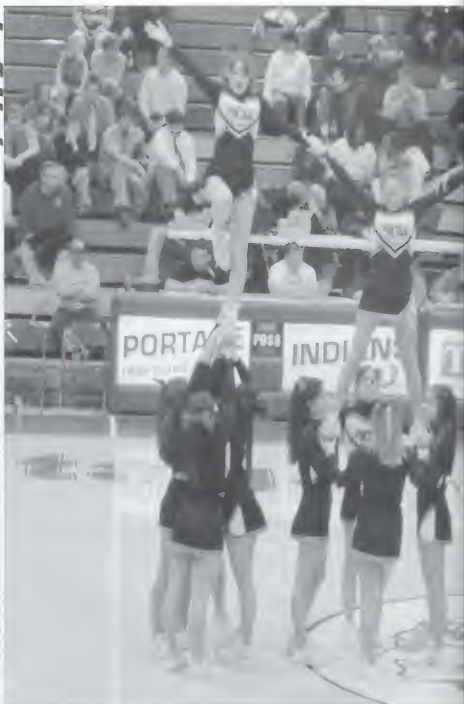


photo by Kelly Jurek



photo by Kelly Jurek



photo by Kelly Jurek

In the opening of every basketball game the school song is played. It's a ritual of cheerleaders and pom-poms to joyfully dance along. All are in sync throughout the entire dance.



While walking enthusiastically the cheerleaders bring smiles to on lookers. Every year they cheer for our football team in hopes of winning the homecoming title.





*Story by: Ashley Jalovecky*

In September the cheerleaders and pom-pom girls made up a routine together and performed at the pep rally. Many were shocked for the simple fact that cheerleaders and pom-poms don't usually get along, but the girls always seem to do something that turns heads.

Games are just one more time for the cheerleaders to get together and have fun with one another. After the year is finished and the seniors have graduated more girls will be recruited for the opportunity to share the cheerleading experience all over again.

- Q** What is one competition you will always remember and why?
- A** I will always remember NCA Nationals when I was a freshman. We had a strong and very mature team.
- Q** Looking back at the end of the year, what's one thing you will remember the most?
- A** The friendship I had with most of the older cheerleaders will continue to be missed, but always remembered.
- Q** Being a senior do you feel the younger girls look up to you as a role model?
- A** Yes, I think they do look up to me. It makes me feel great to know how much they appreciate me. I hope that they have learned as much from me as I did from the seniors that helped me in the past.

Dance moves, tumbling abilities, and smiles, what more could one ask for? The girls show all of their talents off at the homecoming pep rally held this past fall.



While performing her solo, Junior Kall Gibson prepares to execute a triple pirouette. Gibson danced to the theme song from "Tarzan," "You'll Be In My Heart."



Prior to beginning of their hip-hop routine, the girls pose and anticipate the start of the music. The team competed in the division one hip-hop category.

Photo By: Jessica Hedges



## Perfecting Old Talent while Developing New

*Story by Jessica Hedges*

Each year, the pom team competes in numerous competitions and works extremely hard to develop their talents. This year has been no exception.

The girls began their season with tryouts that were held in the latter part of March and from then on the team practiced each week developing their talents and preparing for the competition season that lay before them. The girls went to nine different competitions this season and on average placed between second and third.

In order to train for their rigorous year the girls practiced regularly on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays from 3:00-6:00. The team learned the dances early in the year and persistently practiced them to get ready for competition season, which extended from December throughout the beginning of March.

"In order to prepare for each competition we constantly review our routines and change things to improve them," explains freshman Wendy Windsor.

With each competition they attended the team strived to become superior in both the division-two pom category and the division-one funk category. Aiding the team in the inspiration aspect of poms is also an extremely important task to fulfill.

Particularly with the first year girls on the squad it is necessary for someone to give them guidance, make them feel confident, and show them enthusiasm—a motivational leader.

"I believe the leaders of the team this year have been the captains. They have taught the younger members new skills and answered everyone's questions," states captain Stephanie Tanis.

On average the team primarily consists of

underclassmen. Though some may consider this fact to be a hindrance the team pulls together each season and executes both routines with as much talent and skill as they possibly can.

To prepare many of the underclassmen for the ability the varsity squad must possess a junior varsity squad was assembled. The team was established to train the younger girls to execute the technique necessary to become a member of the varsity squad.

Junior varsity practiced two to three times a week from 3:00 to 6:00 as the varsity did. The team performed the school song at a number of football games, and became more and more involved in sports activities as the year progressed. The girls were able to present their routines to the student body during half time of many of the boys and girls basketball games. The team also performed sidelines prior to the games and were able to demonstrate their routines during the pep rally along with varsity earlier on into the year.

The junior varsity girls attended a camp towards the beginning of the season, along with the varsity girls. This camp was where the junior varsity learned the routines they performed during school events. To perfect their dances the team practiced diligently each week. Though the girls did not compete they all worked exceptionally hard to improve and advance their skills.

In the end both teams once again had successful seasons. Thanks to hard work and dedication the girls were once more able to impress spectators and judges alike.

Photo By: Jessica Hedges



## Why Did You decide to join the Team?



"I joined the team because I had been dancing for seven years and I wanted to be more involved with school."

*Stefane Christian, freshman*



"I decided to join poms because I love to dance and I can not do anything else."

*Carol Bellville, freshman*



"I had been in cheerleading ever since I was four years old and I wanted to try something new."

*Felicia Vucko, sophomore*



Before performing their ensemble, freshman Stefanie Christian, sophomore Lauren Faulk, and junior Stephanie Tanis hold their starting formation. The girls performed their routine in the small ensemble competition.

As freshman Rachel Ybarra performs in the junior solo competition, she completes a lay out and surprised the spectators. Ybarra also dances at Toni's Dance Academy along with a few other teammates on the team.



Photo By: Jessica Rodgers



Photo By: Jessica Rodgers

After completing their pom routine, the team poses and awaits for the applause from the crowd. The girls competed their pom routine in the division - two pom category.

In midst of performing a sideline routine, junior Sarah Gomez smiles to the crowd. Gomez was nominated lieutenant of the varsity squad this year.



Photo By: Nicholas Jelenewsky



Whilst running during a competition, senior Michael Kirk pushes himself to be the best runner he can. Kirk's relay team went to State and ran the sixth fastest time in school history



The 2004-2005 Boys Track team poses together for a team picture. The team this year broke several records and had several amazing athletes. This year, several boys went to State.

While taking part in the long jump, senior Steven Hohnacki flies through the air to receive an excellent distance. A great deal of leg strength is required to be able to jump the length needed.



## Boys Track Finishes

With Excellent Athletes and Broken Records

Story and Pictures by Andrew Culp

This year's Boys Track team was filled with broken records and excellent talent. Many athletes were State finalists this year. Seniors Joshua Whalen, Antoine Brown, Stephen Sweat, John Rooney, Timothy Dohner, Michael Kirk, juniors Justin Smith, Benjamin Kerezman, James Flannery, Nathan Smith, sophomores Joshua Marsh, Kyle Lamping, and freshman Joseph Efantis were all State finalists.

The team of Joshua Whalen, Antoine Brown, Joshua Marsh, and Justin Smith broke a 23-year school record in the 4 x 100 Relay. The team of Stephen Sweat, Kyle Lamping, Joshua Whalen, and Justin Smith also set a new school record in the 4 x 400 Relay.

According to Head Coach John Kappes, the Most Valuable Player was Joshua Whalen. During the regular season, he scored more team points than any other athlete in school history.

"Arguably the best all-around track athlete in school history," says Kappes, "Josh's performances rank him among Portage's all-time best in the 300 Hurdles, 100 and 200 Dashes, and the 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 Relays."

The final record of the team this year was 5-2, placing first in Portage Relays, third in the DAC, first in Sectional, and fourth in regional. The team ended this season a mere six points shy of a perfect record.





Competing in the pole vault event takes balance and agility. Junior David Tomaszewski pushes himself into air during a track meet in mid-April.



A great deal of strength and force is required to be able to throw the shot put. Junior Michael Suthers is in mid-stride here as he takes part in the shot put competition.



After collapsing during a relay run, junior Justin Smith winces in pain as the coach tries to stretch his muscle. Smith was back on his feet in no time, and limped on his leg for the rest of the meet.



When the girls track team competed at the sectionals junior Alicia Robinson ran in her teams relay. This year Robinson was a dominant member for the track team.



## Track Star: Leah Bearss

- Q** What is it that you enjoy the most of Track?
- A** I enjoyed all my teammates the most and they all became really good friends of mine.
- Q** How do you feel knowing that your fellow team mates find you to be a leader?
- A** I feel that it is an honor to be looked upon by such amazing girls.
- Q** How long have you been involved in track?
- A** I have been involved with track ever since the sixth grade.
- Q** Do you have any embarrassing moments that happened to you during track?
- A** Ummm...too many to remember. I am very clumsy!



Each member that is involved in the long jump, can always be a difficult and tiring sporting event. Sophomore Gloria Hernandez lands on her two feet during her event of the long jump.

When the girls track team played against Chesterton at the sectionals on May 17th, junior Kristin Mendez jumps over the vault. That day Mendez performed with great talent.







Since a young age, sophomore Lisa Samplawski has been an active athlete. She runs with her track team mates and runs in a relay for one of the track teams first meet of the season.



At the Sectionals on Tuesday, May 17th the girls track team did exceptionally well as a team. Sophomore Kasey Bryan ran her relay that day to her best ability for the meet.



## Leading The Girls In Sprints

Story by: Meredith McLeod

For some track teams, the players usually consider themselves to be a one-man team. This year, the girls track team bonded together to find themselves successful in the way that they ran for the year of 2005. Before the season started in the spring, the girls came together to readily prepare themselves for the season ahead. Many prominent leaders showed signs of leadership in the team this year.

"To me senior Leah Bears was a leader who usually took charge. She was always there for everyone on the team and also lead the team when we would run," stated freshman Christine Hernandez.

With the team having one another to lead each other in their running abilities, many of the girls this year broke the school record, showing off the great talents that each team member gave to the team.

"I think that all the girls tried very hard this year and I want to congratulate

Kristin Myers, Lisa Samplawski, Theresa Caluag and Tiffany Caluag for breaking the school record in the 4X500 team," declared freshman Melinda Misch.

Many of the girls broke their own records, while also setting very high goals for themselves, showing how much each girl cared to break their individual goal, and succeed for the team as well.

"This season I really wanted to break twelve minutes in the 3200. I was very happy that I achieved this goal," acknowledged Misch.

The girls did a wonderful job this season in breaking each of their individual goals, and also showing great leadership roles for each of the girls on the team for this year.

"The year was great and we over came our goals and made them stronger in the end. Over all the season went very well," stated sophomore Jacqueline Pagan.

Each girl this season enjoyed the season to their fullest and gave it there all.



Together twins, sophomores Theresa and Tiffany Caluag run together in high spirits to win the race. The Caluag twins work together to win the race for the team during the relay.





# Girls Tennis Team

concentrates on  
**Their Own Technique**

*Story by Kelley Paul*

Tennis has been a sport at Portage High School since the first year in 1980. The girls tennis team is a great asset to Portage High School, and has a successful year no matter the schedule or conflicts such as the field house.

"I am really looking forward to the new courts because then all of our matches will no longer be away every time." Sophomore

Kathleen Hargarten addressed.

Practices were held from 3:45 until 5:00 each day unless otherwise addressed. Tennis is mostly about technique of the game rather than skill. Practices were very easy going for the girls and gave them plenty of time to work on their skills and to concentrate on upcoming matches.

"Everything can be improved for next

season. I feel that we need to work more on our techniques rather than running nine miles on a ninety degree day outside," Hargarten stated.

Although the seniors will soon be leaving the team for good, the lower classes know that they must step up in order to have another successful season next year.

"I am really going to miss Jackie next season because she's a great person and is hilarious. She helped a lot of girls get a better grip on their game." Hargarten stated one last time

The girls are having a great outlook on the season next year. The coaching staff and members of the team will be able to help each other become more successful and have a better drive to be sure that next year.



Before the match, sophomore Kathleen Hargarten practices with a teammate. Hargarten put out a great effort this season, helping her team have a great 2005 season.

While awaiting the serve, sophomore Cecelia Martinez stands in position. Martinez is also in other activities throughout PHS including the Pow-Wow staff.





Ball in the air, sophomore Amanda Klinger serves to the other team. Klinger's mean serve has helped the Indians to many victories throughout the season this year.

Ready to hit the ball, senior Jacqueline Barnum changes her position. Barnum has been on the tennis team throughout high school. Jacqueline is also a member of the PHS soccer team.



While watching one of her teammates finish their match, senior Sarah Rogers waits with anticipation. Rogers has been on the tennis team throughout her high school career.

While taking a great step forward, sophomore Trisha Berryman hits the ball. Berryman's hit gave the Indians an easy point in a crucial meet during the season this year.



# Expectations

for next year

## run high

The spring of 2005 was an adventurous one for the boy's golf team, as they had their share of ups and downs throughout the entire season. This year's golf team was rather different as many of the golfers were either seniors or freshmen, with really no sophomores or juniors to even the playing field as well as level out the amount of experience. And to level this out, the team needed to practice quite a bit.

"The hardest thing about this season was making practice everyday," said freshman Zachary Stoehr.

Along with the difference in familiarity that comes from having a

large group of seniors as well as a large group of freshmen is that with very few juniors and sophomores coming up, the team next year may be a very inexperienced one. However, many of the team members share no qualms about any of this. In fact, with so many seniors leaving, the underclassmen see this as a chance to move on.

"I plan on moving up to junior varsity next year and play some varsity matches," said freshman Alexander Quick.

Hopefully the team next year will be a great with the many returning juniors, sophomores and the up and coming freshmen who plan on participating.



After he hits the ball, senior Joseph Wadle watches to see where it will land. Golf is a difficult sport as each golfer needs to line up each shot correctly and hit with the right amount of power.



As a golfer hits the ball, Coach Kretz, Coach Hodges, and junior Dennis Meyers watch. The team and the coaches are always there to cheer on their teammates and encourage them.







Before his turn comes, senior Jacob McCormick tests his swing out. It is essential for the golfer's swing to be absolutely perfect so he can receive the power he needs.

As he focuses intently, senior Randall Wilkening lines up his shot so he can be sure that it will land where it needs to. Lining up shots is an important part to golfing and must be done.



Before the meet begins, senior Jonathon Halfmann checks out his club as he talks to a golfer from Chesterton. Golf gives a chance for people to meet others from various schools.

While the meet goes on, senior Joel Slamkowski gets ready to hit his golf ball as hard as he can. Slamkowski is just one of the many seniors on the golf team who help lead the others.

## What influenced play golf?



"What made me want to participate in golf was an interest in the game and a love for the sport."  
Matthew Erik, Junior



















# STUDENT LIFE

DESIGNED BY CO-EDITOR MEREKITH MCLEOD  
WRITTEN BY COEDITOR'S KELLEY YUPT AND MEREKITH  
MCLEOD



At the Outstanding Young Man performance, senior boys Timothy Dehnert and Adam Kilgore performed together to end the evening. The theme for Outstanding Young Man was Ray Charles, in dedication of his death just this year.

With great enthusiasm senior Steven Lehmann leads his group in the spring musical. The boys performed with great excellence to the audience each night of their performance. "Smoley Joe's Cafe" was an outstanding success for the students this year.



This year at the Air Band performance, seniors Daniel Biby and Eric Mundt danced to the song "It's Raining Men" by the Weather Girls. The boys also played the part of the "Bitchin' Ballerinas" at the Variety Show.



At a crucial point in the fall play "Dracula", seniors Kyle Devaney, David Hines, and Darius Fayer show off their acting talents. "Dracula" turned out to be a huge success. All three of the boys also competed in the outstanding



FOR SEVERAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, THE CONSIDERATION OF AN EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY IS AMONGST ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT MIGHT COME TO MIND. MANY SCHOLARS FIND THAT EVENTS SUCH AS HOMECOMING OR PROM SIMPLY COMPLETE THEIR HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE. AFTER THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EAST BUILDING, STUDENTS AMONGST THE HALLWAYS OF



PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS OF A STUDENT LIFE ACTIVITY WERE MUCH DIFFERENT THEN THAT OF A STUDENT IN THE PRESENT TIME. IN THE 80'S A STUDENTS RECOLLECTIONS CONSISTENTLY LED THEM TO A FUTURE OF WHAT THEY THOUGHT WOULD BE THAT OF EXTRAORDINARY PROPORTION. STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO LAY BACK AND ENJOY THEIR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS BY PARTICIPATING IN STUDENT LIFE ACTIVITIES. MANY EVENTS THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL, DEMONSTRATE THE TALENTS OF STUDENTS REGARDLESS OF AGE, GRADE, RACE OR CREED. WHETHER STUDENTS JUST ENJOY ATTENDING THE FALL PLAY OR TAKING A TIME OUT TO CREATE AN ASTOUNDING PERFORMANCE WITH THEIR FRIENDS, STUDENT LIFE IS A MAJOR PART OF PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

The powder puff football girls huddle to think of their next play. The senior girls had an overwhelming victory over the juniors. The 2005 senior team also performed a victory their junior year.

The midyear graduation was held in the east gymnasium. Senior Andrew Adair looks on to the crowd and awaits to be one of the first seniors to have his name called to officially be a graduate.



At half time, volunteer dancers performed their choreographed moves at the student faculty basketball game. Senior Ashley Jalovecky and Ms. Amanda Carlson organized the group for the game.



Players watch their team mates closely as they score a touchdown on the field. The Portage High School Indians have had an outstanding record for the 2004-2005 season.



While awaiting the big moment, seniors Trisha Sabocik, Cara Horner, Paige Roy, Kari, Campbell, and Josette Villegas talk amongst themselves. The girls were tried on by the student body.



At straight attention, seniors Charles Munsell, Steven Kowalczyk, and Eric Mays observe the football team leaving the field. The boys added a great sense of security at the event.

Along with her father, senior Trisha Sabocik poses for the camera. Sabocik has been nominated for past events throughout her high school career. Sabocik was the first on the stage.







## ANOTHER GREAT

# homecoming

STORY BY:  
KELLEY YUPT

THIS YEAR WAS YET ANOTHER GREAT HOMECOMING WEEK. THE IDEAS PUT FORWARD FOR THE 2004/2005 HOMECOMING GAME, WEEK, PARADE, AND PEP-RALLY WERE THOSE THAT WERE NEVER DISCUSSED BEFORE.

"THE IDEAS THIS YEAR WERE VERY ORIGINAL, I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED ACADEMY AWARDS DAY DURING SPIRIT WEEK, IT WAS RATHER SPLENDID." SENIOR TIFFANY EFANTIS PROCLAIMED. THE PEP RALLY WAS HELD IN WEST AFTER SCHOOL THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BIG GAME.

"I REALLY ENJOYED THE PEP RALLY. I MUST ADMIT THAT MY FAVORITE PART WAS WHEN MS. CARLSON DID THE WORK BECAUSE WELL, SHE'S REALLY HOT." SENIOR JACOB BRYAN SAID. THE PARADE WAS ALSO A BIG HIT FOR OUR SCHOOL THIS YEAR. HELD ON THE SAME ROUTE FROM AYLESWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO JONES, SPECTATORS WATCHED IN

AMUSEMENT AS THE JROTC, CHEERLEADERS, FOOTBALL PLAYERS, AND MUSIC STUDENTS SHOWED OFF THEIR MANY TALENTS.

"MY FAVORITE PART OF THE HOMECOMING PARADE WAS WATCHING ALL MY FELLOW STUDENTS, AND OF COURSE GETTING LOTS OF CANDY!" SENIOR MEREDITH WHEELER ADDRESSED.

PRIOR TO THE GAME, THE ANNUAL POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL GAME WAS HELD. THE SENIOR GIRLS TOOK A BITE OUT OF THE JUNIORS IN A GREAT VICTORY.

"NEXT YEAR THE JUNIORS WILL HAVE A GRUELLING TIME TRYING TO LIVE UP TO THE SENIORS' REPUTATIONS, ESPECIALLY AFTER WE PULVERIZED THEM!" SENIOR JENNIFER FURGYE STATED.

ALL IN ALL, PHS HAD AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY OVER MICHIGAN CITY. HOPEFULLY NEXT YEAR WE CAN HAVE YET ANOTHER GREAT AND SPECTACULAR WEEK.



Along side the track, the PHS marching Indians wait for the signal to approach the field. The Indians performed a great show to add entertainment to the game.

Offensive player senior John Rooney silently observes his team. Rooney has played on the football team throughout high school.



The half-time show was outstanding this year. The marching Indians lead the way through the field playing pieces they have worked on since the beginning of the year.

After the queen was announced, seniors Cara Herner and Paige Ray give each other a hug of congratulations. Herner was announced queen for the night.



The cheerleaders were a great asset to the football games. Sophomore Stephanie Phipps stands with her teammates before the National Anthem prior to the event.

With great enthusiasm, seniors Caitlin Bartz, David Hinojosa, Jessica Riffett and Sarah Tagurian show their spirit at the homecoming game.

The students support helped lead the Indians to a victory over Michigan City.







After the queen announcement, seniors John Hesselkime and Cara Horner pose for a photo or two. Voting for homecoming queen took place during first block on the day of the game.

With deep concentration, senior Steven Kowaleczyk waits to give the next command. JROTC members added a great sense of class to this year's event.



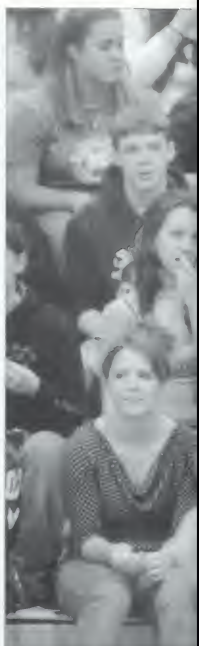
As they watch their teammates on the football team prepare for their time to play, The Indians preferred yet another defeat against Mich. City.

Ready for their big moment, seniors Kari Campbell and Josette Villegas wait patiently. The girls were accompanied to the stage by a person of their own choosing.



Prior to the game beginning the teachers buddled together to plan their strategies. This has been the third consecutive year the teachers have defeated the students.

For the halftime performance, junior Jessica Carrasco danced as one of the student faculty cheerleaders. Teachers Mrs. Sabrina Scroggin and Ms. Amanda Carlson joined the girls in their halftime routine.



Why did you referee the game?

Andrew Repay, 12



"I chose to referee because I was not allowed to play and still wanted to be involved."

With the first half behind them the teachers brought out bikes to surprise the students. A relay race took place between each class ending in a victory for the freshmen.

In midst of taking a free throw junior Alexander Sopp bends down and prepares to shoot. Sopp went on to make the shot and add a point to the score board for the students.





After a play algebra teacher Mr. Jay Hodges takes a breather as the crowd looks on in excitement. Hodges is the head football coach for the freshmen team.

While making a call student referee Christopher Curiel blows his whistle to stop the play. Curiel also referees Portage Youth Basketball games in his spare time.



CONTINUING

## the streak

THREE YEARS IN A ROW

STORY BY:  
JESSICA HODGES

PHOTOS BY:  
GENEVIEVE NIMETH

Continuing their winning streak for the third year in a row the teachers pulled ahead once again, defeating the student team with a score of forty-four to forty-one. The teachers in a close struggle to gain the title of student faculty champion once more demoralized the students.

"I was glad we played well and no one was injured this year. Playing was fun and now the teachers are able to brag for another year," explains chemistry teacher Mr. Robert Kania. Introduced as a means to raise money for prom, the student faculty game was sponsored by the junior class.

The students, under the direction of junior class president Kimberly Payne,

planned, sold, and took tickets prior to the event beginning.

Coaching the students this year were varsity basketball members Anthony Leal and Kevin Dunn.

Prior to the game starting junior class member, Alexandra Stewart led the school in the singing of "The National Anthem."

Once the began. In a neck and neck competition with the hope of finally defeating the teachers the students came on strong, ready to take over the title.

All throughout the first half students and teachers battled with only a few points between them. Tensions rose as the game progressed and as points were added to the score board the competition only

grew greater.

As the buzzer sounded ending the second quarter the students received a surprise from the administrators who rode through the gym on stilts to introduce the halftime show.

During the break a relay race between each class took place.

The race consisted of riding a bike around the gymnasium while balancing a basketball between their legs.

The win ultimately went to the freshmen class.

After the contest the student faculty cheerleaders were introduced and performed a routine they had been developing for weeks prior to the game taking place.

Joining the students in their performance were math teacher Ms. Amanda Carlson

and family and consumer sciences teacher Mrs. Sabrina Scroggin.

The anxiety of the players and spectators was again at a high. As the time started to run out the scores grew closer.

With only seconds left and three points between the two teams the students fought for their first win against the faculty team.

Unfortunately the students were again left disheartened by the faculty members. For the third consecutive year the faculty have managed to overcome the students by a few points and crush their spirits.

Leaving the students yearning for the faculty's winning title for another year.



In perhaps his greatest performance to date, senior David Hincosa phenomenally captured the role of the psychotic servant, Renfield. The Co-President of Theatians gratefully provided the comic relief for the dramatic show.



Appropriately enough, big brother needs little sister to help him with the simple tasks of life. Junior Jessica Bolint struggles to correct senior Christopher Bolint's make-up mistakes.

With all the charm and charisma that is Dracula, sophomore Sean Toomey perfectly portrayed the part of the menacing Count. Toomey was also featured in the spring musical, Smokey Joe's Cafe.







In a state of confusion, Dr. Quincy, senior Kyle Devaney, frantically jots down a few notes. Dracula was Devaney's debut on the Portage High School stage.

Distraught by the mysterious tale of her missing husband, junior Ashley Davis weepingly looks to the audience. Another debut performance was made this year by Davis.



A veteran to Portage High School performances, senior Kelly Canner does her own hair and make-up before the show. Canner played the role of Mrs. Fern in the play.

Overwhelmed by the peculiar sickness of her daughter Lucy, senior Amanda Morales faints. Mrs. Westerna Morales, steadily finds her strength to stand with the assistance of juniors Alexandria Stewart and Sarah Mustafa.



Keeper of the deranged patient Renfield, Grimm, played by junior Brent Cook, has to endure all circumstances. This includes a casual bite made to the shin.

As an accomplished guitar player, senior Christopher Belint can be heard in the pit band, stealing the show with his captivating compositions. For a change of scenery, this year Belint was featured as one of the lead roles, Johnathan Harker.

As a maid for the house, Flora, played by senior Kimberly Nelson aids in the mystery of the suspicious Count Dracula. Nelson has also been involved with the school newspaper, and has been on staff for three years.



Dracula's wives, juniors Katherine Batista and Kimberly Redden and sophomore Cassandra Janis, dance to a seductively haunting melody as a figment of Jonathan Harker's dreams.

## "DEJA BOO!"

STORY BY:  
TERI HARRINGTON

AFTER TEN YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE AUDITORIUM STAGE, MR. PATRICK MOODY, ENGLISH TEACHER, DECIDED TO DESCEND BACK TO THE WAY HE KICKED OFF HIS CAREER AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE PRODUCTION THAT MOODY PUT ALL OF HIS DIRECTING ABILITIES TO WAS BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA, THE FIRST SHOW HE TOOK UNDER HIS WING.

THE FIRST TIME AROUND, TEN YEARS AGO, DRACULA WAS SAID TO BE LESS ORGANIZED AND PREPARED. HOWEVER, THIS YEAR THE CROWD RECEIVED THE WHOLE SHOW MUCH BETTER.

THE WAY THE SHOW PRESENTED ITSELF THROUGHOUT THE TWO NOVEMBER NIGHTS SEEMED ALMOST EFFORTLESS. EACH SCENE DISPLAYED A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND STOLE THE GLORY AWAY FROM THOSE THAT PRECEDED. THE ACCENTS OF EACH THESPIAN WERE UNIQUE. EACH THESPIAN HIMSELF, ALSO ENTERTAINED THE AUDIENCE ON BOTH NIGHTS.

"I WOULD GO HOME EVERY NIGHT AND REHEARSE MY LINES, WORKING ON MY ACCENT. WE WOULD ALL

\* PRACTICE BACKSTAGE DURING BREAKS THAT WE HAD IN BETWEEN SCENES," STATED SENIOR KIMBERLY NELSON.

\* THE PLAY INCLUDED THE DRAWS OF THOSE FROM GERMANY, RUSSIA AND BRITAIN. THE SOLID WORK OF THE ACTORS AND DANCERS, WHO WERE INSTRUCTED BY MOODY AND TWO STUDENT DIRECTORS, SENIORS ANDREW ADAIR AND ASHLEY CRAFT, MADE THE SHOW COMPLETELY CAPTIVATING. THE FALL PLAY HAS ALWAYS BEEN PERCEIVED AS STRICTLY A DRAMA SHOW. MOODY FOUND A UNIQUE WAY TO INCORPORATE DANCE AND MUSIC WITHIN THE SHOW.

\* NELSON CONCLUDED WITH, "OVERALL, THE WHOLE THING WENT REALLY WELL. EVERYONE WAS ON CLUE BOTH NIGHTS AND WE SHOWED UP WITH MUCH MORE THAN WHAT MOST OF THE AUDIENCE EXPECTED."

\* AFTERWARDS, AUDITORIUM DIRECTOR, JOE STEVEN, EXPLAINED HOW GREAT THE SHOW REALLY WAS, AND THAT IT WILL SURELY BE DIFFICULT TO TOP IN FUTURE YEARS.



"I was glad that we could incorporate music and dance within the fall play. I enjoyed dancing with all of the other

"wives."  
Jessica  
Hodges, 11

"My favorite part of the play was being able to hang out with the rest of the cast back stage between performances."

Brit  
Hestrich  
12

Mysteriously, two concerning puncture wounds appear on Lucy Westenra's neck, played by senior Stevie Chaddock. Noticing this, Professor Van Helsing, senior Dustin Foster, revels in his untold tales of the legendary vampire referred to as Count Dracula.

What was your favorite part being in the fall play?





With his first musical debut senior Phillip Cowger amazed the audience with his singing talents. Cowger, along with his fellow cast mates spent weeks practicing the lyrics and choreography for the different songs. Cowger also participated in the annual CYM competition here at FHS.



PHOTO BY: ERICA RODRIGUEZ



PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUET

When we go shopping for clothes most people don't encounter dancing suits, but for senior Timothy Slatten the suits made an exception. This was his first performance on stage for something other than an orchestra concert. Slatten has played the cello for four years in the school orchestra.

This years musical allowed many students a chance to have a solo. Freshman Timothy Thompson's solo was "Ricky Bury." Thompson sang many other songs with the boys ensemble this year and he is also concert master of the concert orchestra here at Fortage High School.

PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUET





## SINGING AND DANCING AT

# smokey joes cafe

STORY BY:  
MEGAN RICHMOND

The pit for the musical may be one of the most important parts of a musical, because without any music, you wouldn't have a musical. Senior Jaina Cervus has played the piano in the musicals for the past four years and she even won the musical award, along with senior Chris Bolint at the theatrical banquet later in the year.

PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND



EACH YEAR THE PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL THESPIANS PUT ON THE ANNUAL MUSICAL. IN THE PAST WE HAVE SEEN THEM PUT ON "THE KING AND I," "FOOTLOOSE," AND MANY OTHERS. EACH YEAR IT IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND MORE EXCITING THAN THE YEAR BEFORE. AND THIS YEAR IS NO EXCEPTION. LAST YEAR WE CAN ALL REMEMBER "CHICAGO." WHAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW IS THAT EVERYTHING WAS PREPARED TO HAVE "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" BE LAST YEAR'S MUSICAL, BUT WHEN MR. JOE STEVENS AND MR. WILLIAM BODNAR FOUND OUT THAT THEY RECEIVED PERMISSION TO PERFORM "CHICAGO," THEY THEN DECIDED TO SAVE "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" FOR THIS YEAR'S PERFORMANCE. "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" IS DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER MUSICAL THAT HAS EVER BEEN PERFORMED HERE AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL. UNLIKE MOST MUSICALS, "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" DIDN'T HAVE A ANY DIALOGUE OTHER THAN

★ THE SONGS. SO IN A SENSE THERE WERE NO "MAIN" CHARACTERS. SOME STUPIDS DID HAVE MORE SONGS THAN OTHERS, BUT THIS YEAR'S MUSICAL WAS TRULY A TEAM EFFORT. THE STUDENTS ALL HAD TO WORK TOGETHER TO GET THE SONGS PERFECT FOR OPENING NIGHT. BUT THE SMALL ENSEMBLES HAD THE MOST WORK TO DO. THE SMALL ENSEMBLES HAD TO WORK TOGETHER FOR HOURS TO GET THEIR VOICES TO BLEND AND WORK TOGETHER FOR THE DIFFERENT SONGS AND IN THE END THEIR HARD WORK PAID OFF. THIS YEAR'S MUSICAL WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE PAST IN MANY WAYS, BUT IT WAS SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS TOO. IT WAS SIMILAR IN THE SENSE THAT THE STUDENTS PERFORMING WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO PUT ON A GREAT SHOW FOR THE AUDIENCE, AND THEY DID JUST THAT. THE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PUTTING ON A GREAT SHOW FOR YEARS AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

"We all went to "Kansas City" with senior Sara Mustafa. Mustafa also sang some duets with senior Steven Lehmann and another with senior Kristie Feder. Mustafa also held a leading role in this years fall play."

In this years musical, Smokey Joe's Cafe, senior Amanda Morales taught us all how to shimmy. Morales has never missed a performance of the fall play or the spring musical in her four years here at PHS. This was also Morales's last time performing on the PHS stage.

PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUPT



## What Was Your Favorite Song This Year?



"My favorite song was 'Baby That's Rock-A-Ball' because Christopher Bolint had an awesome guitar solo in it."

Kraig Kmistein, Junior



"My favorite song was 'Saved' because everyone in the cast was able to get on the stage and sing together."

Jacob Ahlborn, Junior



With great enthusiasm, junior Katherine Batista leads her group in the song "Don Juan." Batista also sang back up to many other songs throughout the show. The girls astounded the audience with their singing abilities in all four of the performances. Batista is also on the Legend staff.

While being held back, senior Steven Lehmann sings with his group mates about a sassy woman named "Little Egypt". The boy's ensemble was one of the more memorable of the night. The guys also did an outstanding job on their numbers "Young Blood", and "Searching".



PHOTO BY: PUSTIN FOSTER



PHOTO BY: PUSTIN FOSTER



All spring night came closer, rehearsal became more intense for senior Eric Hettrick and junior Joseph Morales. Hettrick and Morales' dance was an outstanding success, during the song "Rise In Spanish Harlem." They both have been a part of the musicals and plays in the past.

With only a few rehearsals left before opening night Mr. William Bodnar gives some last minute suggestions to the cast and crew. Bodnar has been directing on and off, for the past 33 years. William stated that he can't pick a favorite show because they were all extraordinary in their own way.



PHOTO BY: PUSTIN FOSTER



"I think that everything is important to a musical, but the music overrides everything because if there was no music then you can't call it a musical."  
Mandi Rango, Junior



"The people that make the music are definitely a big part of what a musical is. Without the music, the whole idea of being on stage is pointless."  
Cara Hamann, Freshman

What do you feel is the most important part of a musical?





PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUPT

The choreography for this years musical, was very detailed and it took many hours of practicing to get the moves right. Junior Stephanie Tania and sophomore Kristine Jones rehearsed with the other girls to perfect the dances for opening night. Tania and Jones both helped choreograph the entire musical with senior Rose Martinez.



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND

While concentrating intensely on his music senior Christopher Bolint rocks out on his guitar. Bolint is no stranger to the stage, he has also performed in Air Band, Variety Show, and both past musicals and plays throughout his four years here at Portage High School.



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND



PHOTO BY: JUSTIN FOSTER

PHOTO BY: GENEVIEVE ARNOLD



One of the many performances of the night included the fun yet seductive "Poison Ivy." The girls brought back memories from the past when fun tunes such as this one were dominant. They practiced the choreography together almost everyday to get it perfect for their four performances.

With only a few days before the performance the cast tried to make some last minute adjustments to help the musical be the best that it could be. On the night of the performance we were all "Saved" due to junior Alexandra Stewart's electrifying performance. All of the practice and hard work paid off in the end.



# ANOTHER YEAR OF

# Junior miss

STORY BY:  
KELLEY YUPT

JUNIOR MISS WAS YET "I REALLY DID ENJOY ANOTHER OUTSTANDING \* ACCOMPANYING ALL SHE SUCCESS THIS YEAR. THE \* IS ONE OF MY GOOD THERE WAS FLEETWOOD \* FRIENDS AND SHE IS MACK, HAVING SONGS AND \* DEFINITELY AN AWESOME ACTS PERFORMED \* SINGER. IT WAS GREAT TO THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT \* SEE HER GO ON AND WIN MANY FAMILIAR FACES \* THE COMPETITION."

WERE SHOWN \* SENIOR JANA ZERVOS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT \* STATED.

SUCH AS SENIOR JANA \* A PLETHORA OF ZERVOS ON THE PIANO, AWARDS WERE GIVEN FORMER JUNIOR MISS \* THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT SENIOR AMANDA \* SUCH AS TALENT, GIVEN MORALES, AND MR. JOE \* TO JUNIORS JESSICA STEVENS AS AN \* BOLINT AND DANIELLE

ANNOUNCER \* LEIMBACH, AND OTHERS "I THINK ALL OF THE \* SUCH AS MISS GIRLS REALLY WORKED \* CONGENIALITY, AND HARD ON THEIR TALENTS \* AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC AND ACTS. AT \* ACHIEVEMENT.

REHEARSALS THEY REALLY \* "I THOUGHT THE SEEMED TO GET INTO \* AWARDS WERE MUCH THEIR ACTS, WHICH \* BETTER THIS YEAR. REALLY SHOWED THE \* BECAUSE I ACTUALLY GOT AUDIENCE HOW HARD THEY \* TO SEE MY CLASS WIN WORKED THROUGHOUT \* THEM." JUNIOR RAMI THEIR REHEARSALS \* PIERS STATED.

SENIOR MEGAN RICHMOND \* EACH GIRL GOT TO ADDRESSED \* SPEND TIME WITH THEIR SENIOR ALEXANDRIA \* CLASSMATES STEWART TOOK HOME THE \* THROUGHOUT THE OUTSTANDING AWARD AS \* COMPETITION.

BEING NAMED JUNIOR \* "THIS WAS DEFINITELY MISS OF PORTAGE HIGH \* SOMETHING THESE GIRLS SCHOOL. STEWART SANG \* WILL REMEMBER FOR THE FOR HER TALENT, AND \* REST OF THEIR LIVES." SENIOR JANA ZERVOS \* SENIOR JANA ZERVOS ACCOMPANIED HER ON THE \* EXCLAIMED. PIANO. \*



The qualities that a Junior Miss have are many. Along with fitness, the girls are judges on poise, talent and academics.





Right after the fitness routine, the girls were asked a series of questions. Junior Jessica Hodges awaits here.

Presenter and principal, Richard Kirchner reads through the list of awards while last year's winner, Amanda Morales awaits to crown a new Junior Miss.



Having fun with the fitness routine, the contestants show their physical prowess to the judges and audience members alike.



Junior Miss  
Highlights









## AN OUTSTANDING NIGHT

# of talent

STORY BY:

KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ

EACH YEAR THE SENIOR BOYS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL'S OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN PROGRAM. THEY COMPETE FOR A \$1,750 CASH SCHOLARSHIP, AMONG OTHER PRIZES. THE PROGRAM RECOGNIZES THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SENIOR BOYS AND ENCOURAGES THEM TO CONTINUE EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. ALL OF THE CANDIDATES RECEIVE A YMCA MEMBERSHIP, A \$100 CASH SCHOLARSHIP, AND OTHER VARIOUS GIFTS, JUST FOR BEING PART OF THE PROGRAM. THIS YEAR'S THEME WAS "TRIBUTE TO RAY," REVOLVING AROUND THE LEGENDARY RAY CHARLES. THE STAGE WAS ADORNED WITH A BACKDROP READING HIS NAME AND HIS MUSIC PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT'S SEGMENTS. OUT OF THIRTY FIVE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING THIS YEAR, BRETT BERMES WON THE COMPETITION. HE PLANS TO ATTEND VALPARAISO

- \* UNIVERSITY TO STUDY
- \* ADMINISTRATIVE
- \* BUSINESS AND PLAY
- \* SOCCER FOR THE
- \* SCHOOL'S TEAM.
- \* THERE ARE FIVE
- \* SEGMENTS IN WHICH THE
- \* BOYS ARE EVALUATED BY.
- \* AN INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW
- \* IS HELD BY THE JUDGES,
- \* MAKING UP THIRTY
- \* PERCENT OF THE
- \* COMPETITION. ACADEMICS
- \* AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE
- \* EXAMS ARE ALSO
- \* REVIEWED BEFOREHAND.
- \* DURING THE NIGHT'S
- \* SHOW, THEY ARE JUDGED
- \* BY PRESENTATION AND
- \* ADDRESS, THE CASUAL
- \* SEGMENT AND THE
- \* PHYSICAL SEGMENT.
- \* OTHER ENTERTAINMENT
- \* DURING THE NIGHT WAS
- \* PROVIDED BY THE
- \* VOLUNTARY TALENT
- \* SEGMENT OF THE SHOW,
- \* INCLUDING MUSICAL AND
- \* ACTING TALENT, AND
- \* SPECIAL GUEST CHESTER
- \* GREGORY.
- \* LAST YEAR'S
- \* OUTSTANDING YOUNG
- \* MAN, BRIAN FIELDER,
- \* ENDED THE NIGHT WITH
- \* THREE THINGS TO LIVE
- \* YOUR LIFE BY: "LOVE YOUR
- \* FAMILY AND FRIENDS, FEAR
- \* GOD, AND TAKE NOTHING
- \* FOR GRANTED."

The formal segment of the program allows the boys to address their peers upon graduation. Senior Joel Slankiewicz plans to attend Purdue University to major in engineering.

PHOTO BY ERICA RODRIGUEZ



PHOTO BY ERICA RODRIGUEZ







Presentation and address is the portion of the show when the boys address the audience in their formal wear. Here they are lined up and waiting their turn to speak about their life goals.

At rehearsals, senior Amanda Morales teaches the boys an aerobics routine. They are to perform the dance during the physical segment of the show to the song, "Save Your Lovin' Just For Me."



PHOTO BY BRIE HETTRICK



PHOTO BY KERSAN CIESZKIEWICZ



PHOTO BY KERSAN CIESZKIEWICZ

As a treat for the audience, Chester Gregory flew in from New York to grace the stage. He performed three songs from "The Jackie Wilson Story" and is one of three principle characters from "Hairspray" on Broadway.

Given the option to participate in the talent portion of the show, senior Dustin Foster composed and performed an original monologue. Its title is "Freedom and Anonymity."



A cover of Journey's "Anyway You Want It" was played during the talent segment. Senior Timothy Dohmer played bass along with three other boys making up the band.

With awards in hand, the senior girls patiently wait in line to congratulate the winners who are soon to be announced. Prizes range from YMCA memberships to cash awards.

PHOTO BY KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ



PHOTO BY KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ



PHOTO BY KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ





Outstanding Young Man  
Brett Bermes

Finalists

1st  
Eric Mundt  
2nd  
Mark Scheuer  
3rd  
David Hinojosa  
4th  
David Staples

Academic Award  
Joel Slankowski  
Timothy Slatton  
Daniel Biby  
Eric Mundt

Casual Segment  
Matthew Engel  
Bradley Norikus  
Steven Rosenbaum

Dress Awards  
Steven Lehmann  
Christopher Curiel  
Michael Parker

Physical Segment  
Nicholas Sturges  
Kyle Dean  
Brett Bermes

Good Guy Award  
Robert Bailey  
David Staples  
Brett Spotten

Fraternity Award  
Brett Spotten



PHOTO BY ERIC HETTRICK

Glad in boxes  
and flexing their  
muscles, the boys'  
performance is  
accompanied by the  
cheers and howls  
from the audience.  
The physical  
segment will count  
as twenty percent  
of their  
evaluation.

To prepare for the  
program, the boys are  
getting comfortable at  
rehearsals. They will  
need to learn the  
format of the show, as  
well as the routine  
they will perform.



While busting out his best moves, senior Daniel Bibby is the center of attention in the spotlight. Bibby's group mates reach out to get a piece of the action during their performance.

While performing during air band, junior Brendan Mulroe, becomes very passionate during his performance. Many students reenact various songs from the 1980's

## THE SHOW MUST

go on!!!

STORY BY:  
AMANDA BURCH

AS THE MIDPOINT OF THE YEAR COMES AROUND, AIR BAND IS THE YEAR COMES AROUND. RIDICULOUS."

AT THE CORNER, STUDENTS WITH THE LACK OF PARTICIPANTS, THE ANTICIPATE THE MUCH STUDENTS WHO DID BELOVED AIR BAND SHOW. PARTICIPATE MADE THE

THIS SHOW ALLOWS SHOW ANOTHER SUCCESS STUDENTS TO LET LOOSE THIS YEAR AND SHOWED AND RELIEVE SOME OF WHAT A BLAST IT CAN MUCH-ADDED STRESS OF TRULY BE.

FINALS. THIS YEAR'S "I HAVE BEEN IN TWO SHOW FELL SHORT OF A OTHER SHOWS BEFORE FEW ACTS, TO FILL IN TIME; AND I LOVE BEING ON THE RULES WERE BROKEN STAGE. IT'S A RUSH THAT OF NO LIVE BRINGS THE BEST OUT OF

PERFORMANCES. WITH THE ME. COME ON IF YOU'VE GOT IT, FLAUNT IT!" FEW LIVE ACTS THAT WERE PERFORMED, THEY MADE FLAMES SENIOR ASHLEY THIS YEAR'S SHOW EVEN JALOVECKY.

MORE SPECIAL THAN IN MANY OF THE CLASSIC THE PAST. WITH THE AIR BAND SKITS CONSIST SHORTAGE OF OF ELABORATE COSTUMES PARTICIPANTS, NEXT AND INSTRUMENTS MADE YEAR'S SHOW IS NOW IN OF CARDBOARD AND OTHER QUESTION. HOMEMADE MATERIALS.

WHEN ASKED IF THE MOST OF THE SHOW SHOULD GO ON, PERFORMANCES ARE SENIOR JANA ZERVOS REENACTMENTS OF THE REPLIES, "OF COURSE. LIFE 1980'S ERA. THIS TIME IS WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF CHOSEN DUE TO ITS THERE WAS NO AIR BAND! FLAMBOYANCE AND

IT WAS OVERALL JUST A MEMORABLE MUSIC GREAT NIGHT AND IT WAS MOMENTS. NICE TO SEE EVERYONE

At air band, junior Robert Liesch rocks out on his guitar. Liesch has participated in the event in the past years, along with his brothers.







Decked out in bubble bee costume and diaper, senior Christopher Bolint rocks out with his broomstick. Air band allows students to show a side of themselves that most do not experience regularly.

While belting out his rendition of "Total Eclipse of the Heart", seniors Brett Bermes and Jacqueline Barnum, strut their stuff across the stage. This was one of the more exuberant acts of the night.





The best part  
of air band was  
putting my  
hands all over  
Dan Biny" -  
it. Michael  
Pariser

A group of girls  
gave one of the  
few live  
performances of  
the evening.  
Many of these  
live acts where  
songs sang in  
this years  
successful  
musical.  
Smiley  
Joe's Cafe

After a resounding performance, senior Stephen Sweat  
casually waves in gratitude as the crowd goes wild.  
Sweat beat boxed for the crowd with this being yet  
another live performance of the evening.



In an effort to get the crowd going, a group of  
PHS's finest put together a sled in their sports  
attire. The main goal of the evening was to go  
out on stage and have a good time.





A number of girls combined dancing and singing with their own choreographed moves. This act's moves made it one of the more interesting ones of the night. The girls did a outstanding job.

FHS's "Mad Dog" calls out the next act from his stationary position on the stage. It is a tradition for Mr. Bodnar to announce the up and coming acts from the side of the stage.





These beautiful dancers have been friends since first meeting freshman year. At this years show they expressed how well they could dance and how important friendship is when performing.



## LONG TIME

## talents

STORY BY:  
RAMI PIERIS

THIS YEAR'S VARIETY SHOW WAS A HUGE HIT AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE AUDIENCE WAS PACKED WITH STUDENTS CHEERING ON THEIR FEET.

THE SHOW CONSISTED OF TWENTY-THREE ACTS.

ALL OF THEM DISPLAYED BRILLIANT TALENT OF OUR FELLOW CLASSMATES.

THE SHOW OPENED WITH A BAND NAMED SHMACKIES.

THEIR COVERS RANG IN THE AUDITORIUM CAUSING THE CROWD TO CLAP.

ALONG WITH THE MUSIC, THERE WERE QUITE A FEW SPECTACULAR ACTS IN-

BETWEEN THE SHMACKIES' PERFORMANCE AND THE CLOSING NOTES FROM

CHRIS BOLLIT ON BONGOS AND ANDREW ADAR

SINGING AS THEIR MELODIES BEAT THREW

THE HEADS OF THE ATTENDEES.

MUSIC WAS NOT THE ONLY TALENT DISPLAYED BY THIS YEAR'S BATCH OF PERFORMERS.

MANY DANCERS SHOWED THEIR SKILLS OFF TO JUST BY DOING WHAT THEY LOVE

AND THAT'S DANCING. THE FIRST DANCE OF THE NIGHT WAS DONE BY FRESHMAN CAROL

\* BELLEVILLE AND CHRISTINA

\* RODRIGUEZ TOGETHER

\* THEY GATHERED AN

\* APPRECIATION AND

\* APPROVAL FROM THE

\* CROWD.

\* GRACING THE STAGE IN

\* THE SECOND ACT WAS AN

\* UNUSUAL ROUTINE. NOT

\* ANOTHER SONG AND DANCE

\* BUT MARTIAL ARTS.

\* "IT WAS A SIGH OF RELIEF

\* TO BRAKE AWAY FROM THE

\* NORMAL AND SEE KIDS

\* BREAK BOARDS AND

\* SWORD FIGHT ON STAGE,"

\* RECALLED JUNIOR LISA

\* WHITWORTH.

\* MANY GOOD ACTS

\* INVOLVING MUSIC WERE

\* PRESENT ON THAT FRIDAY

\* NIGHT BUT NONE QUITE AS

\* MEMBER ABLE AS CHRIS

\* BOLLIT GETTING UP ON THE

\* STAGE AND ROCKIN' OUT IN

\* FRONT OF EVERYBODY.

\* "DID YOU SEE HOW

\* FAST HE WAS PLAYING?"

\* EXCLAIMED ERIC RUIZ AS

\* HE WATCHED A FELLOW

\* MUSICIAN IN AWE.

\* "THIS YEAR WE HAD A

\* GREAT VARIETY SHOW,"

\* STATED MR. BOMBER AS

\* THE SHOW CAME TO AN

\* END. NEXT YEAR HAS VERY

\* HIGH STANDARDS TO

\* MEET.



The opening act this year was The Shmacks. This group of sophomores started out with covers and then ended with a couple of originals.

The Secret Garden played a very lively song they wrote themselves. The band is made of two guys both seniors D.J. Vander Wal and Mitch Mannino. He is the amazing guitarist and DJ is on vocals.





She's on poms and has been dancing since she was a little girl. Junior Stephanie Tanis here displays her skills by spinning around dexterously in circles. Her cute smile is always a crowd pleaser.



As students left the show "Best act all night," could be heard about senior Tim Slatten's adaptation of Napoleon Dynamite's dance. He had it down perfectly his boots, hair, and shirt.



No stranger to the stage, senior Shannon Stutler sang her heart out when it was her turn to take the stage. She has been in many of the schools productions due to her beautiful singing voice.

This country girl had the crowd clapping and stomping to the music as she sang a song by the Dixie Chicks. Sophomore Christina Ratliff has always loved to sing and listen to country music.



These guys sure know how to rock. The Shmalgies opened the show with a cover song and then finished up with an original cover.

Deep in thought, senior Andrew Adair belts out Baby Beluga. This humorous act ended this year's variety show.



This cluster of dancers, poms girls, and cheerleaders was headed by junior Alison Homer. The unique act was a fun liberation for the audience to relax and dance in their seats.

Yes, the senior boys have returned for this year's Bitchin' Ballerinas.

These new ballerinas are Christopher Bolint, Adam Kilgore, Michael Parker, Daniel Bibby, Eric Mundt, Kyle Devaney and Steve Rosebaum.







A display of brilliance was witnessed as junior Mitch Slowik and seniors Robert Cercellus and Josh Henry showed off their skills.

They are members of the Tae Kwon club at PHS

At last, her talent was unleashed on an audience that could not have known that senior Maribel Decelles was capable of singing the commanding way she does. Her strong voice and sweet innocent smile is classic.

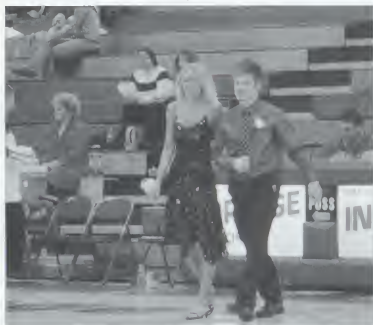


What's it like being on stage?  
"I loved being on stage and having everybody laughing and applauding for me it was so much fun."  
-Tim Slatten





In anticipation of the announcement, juniors Randall Dawkins and Rachel Kanich walk to center floor. The halftime presentation was led by the thespian officers.



After being named princess, junior Rachel Kanich kneels down in order for senior David Hinojosa to place the crown upon her head. The rest of the junior girls watch.

The senior boys await with eagerness previous to the winter homecoming king being declared. Junior prince Shane Damm stands in the background after being crowned.







Junior girls gather in rows during the halftime ceremony of the game against Crown Point. Each girl was given a corsage before going out onto the court.

After the first quarter ended, the varsity boys lined up and prepared to depart to the locker room to strategize and review plays for the next half. The boys came back to a disappointing loss.



Arm and arm, homecoming king and queen, seniors Ben Hettrick and Michael Kirk walk off the floor. The pair left the gymnasium to visit friends and family in the lobby to take photos. Both seniors are in other events within PHS.

THANKS TO

## thespians

STORY AND  
PHOTOS BY:  
JESSICA HOPGES

INSTITUTED IN 1989, WINTER HOMECOMING HAS BECOME A HIGHLY ANTICIPATED EVENT EACH YEAR IT HAS BEEN IN EFFECT.

HOWEVER, TWO YEARS AGO THE CEREMONY WAS AT RISK OF NO LONGER BEING CELEBRATED WHEN ADMINISTRATORS FELT PUTTING ON TWO LARGE HOMECOMING DANCES AND CEREMONIES WOULD WEIGH TOO HEAVILY ON

THE SCHOOL AND STUDENTS FINANCIALLY.

FOLLOWING THE THESPIANS RECEIVING NEWS OF THE CEREMONY POSSIBLY BEING PUT TO REST THEY DECIDED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE SITUATION. THE CLUB HAS NOW BECOME THE NEW SPONSORS OF THIS TRADITION FOR THE TIME BEING.

"THESPIANS ADOPTED THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF

\* THE WINTER HOMECOMING  
\* NOMINATIONS AND THE  
\* CEREMONY ONCE THE  
\* STUDENTS FOUND OUT  
\* THE SCHOOL WAS  
\* THINKING OF NO LONGER  
\* PARTICIPATING IN THIS  
\* CUSTOM," EXPLAINS  
\* THEATER DIRECTOR MR.  
\* JOSEPH STEVENS.

\* THE BOYS OPPOSED  
\* CROWN POINT AND  
\* UNFORTUNATELY WALKED  
\* AWAY WITH A LOSS.  
\* THROUGHOUT THE FIRST

HALF OF THE GAME THE TEAM WAS ABLE TO MAINTAIN ONLY A FEW POINT TRAIL BEHIND CROWN POINT.

HEADING TOWARDS THE SECOND HALF HOPES WERE STILL HIGH AND A COME BACK STILL SEEMED PROBABLE.

AFTER THE TEAM RETREATED INTO THE LOCKER ROOM THE HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES BEGAN.



As the nominees applaud king and queen, seniors Michael Kirk and Brië Hettrick stand and pose for pictures. Hettrick is a choreographer in "Smiley Joe's Café", and Kirk is a member of the cross-country team.

After being named queen, senior Brië Hettrick walks with flowers in hand toward king Michael Kirk as he adjusts his crown.

The pair were received with great excitement by the crowd.



Prior to the winter homecoming court announcement princess and queen nominees gather together. The title of winter homecoming princess went to junior Rachel Kanich and title of queen was given to senior Brië Hettrick.

Theeplan's president senior Amanda Morales places the crown upon junior prince Shane Dixon's head during the ceremony. Dixon is also involved in football and baseball during the year.





STEVENS COMMENCED THE CEREMONY BY ANNOUNCING THESEPIANS PRESIDENT AMANDA MORALES, VICE PRESIDENT DAVID HINOJOSA, AND SECRETARY ALEXANDRA STEWART.

FROM THEN ON THE HOMECOMING COURT WAS ANNOUNCED AS THE NOMINEES WALKED OUT ONTO THE FLOOR. STARTING WITH THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS NOMINEES EACH COUPLE STROLLED ARM AND ARM INTO THEIR SPOTS IN ANTICIPATION OF THE WINNERS BEING DECLARED. THE EXCITEMENT CONTINUED TO RISE, AS THE SENIORS WERE CALLED INTO THEIR PLACES. ONCE THE TWENTY-FOUR NOMINEES WERE ANNOUNCED

THE CROWD GREW ANXIOUS AS THE WINNERS WERE REVEALED. WINNING THE TITLE OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS WERE SHANE DIXON AND RACHEL KANICH. THE KING AND QUEEN CROWNS WENT TO MICHAEL KIRK AND BRIE HETRICK. AFTER BEING AWARDED THEIR FLOWERS AND CROWNS THE WINNERS COMPOSED THEMSELVES AND LEFT THE GYMNASIUM. AS THE SECOND HALF PROGRESSED ALL HOPES OF A COMEBACK BEGAN TO GROW BLEAK. THE HARDER THE BOYS PLAYED THE FURTHER BEHIND THEY FELL. DESPITE THE TEAM'S EFFORTS TO SURPASS CROWN POINT'S SCORE THEIR HARD WORK FELL SHORT. THE GAME ENDED WITH A DISAPPOINTING DEFEAT TO THE BULLDOGS.

How did it feel to win?

"I was surprised I won. I was up against some great guys and lucky to have won the title of winter homecoming prince." junior, Shane Dixon



Ready to take their position on the floor senior nominees senior's Shaun Gansum and Brittany Gill walk onto the floor. The pair twirled as staff together for the natural helpers retreat.



In the second quarter of the game senior Anthony Leal dodges Crown Point players and makes his way down the court. The game ended with an unfortunate loss to the Crown Point Bulldogs.

With determination to defend the Portage basket, junior Nathan Lewis bends into his stance. Lewis went on to block the opposing team's shot.





While doing the robot with their boyfriends, seniors Kelley Yude and Meredith McLeod seem to be having fun. Both have been in yearbook for three years and are coeditors this year.



Sweaty and exhausted sophomore Samantha Alley, freshmen Spencer Rosenberger and Matthew Naddalci dance up a storm. All were laughing and having a great time dancing together.



Smiles and laughing, junior Korea Smith dances with fellow classmate senior Ashley Jalovecky and teacher Ms. Carlson on the common benches. All were seen dancing to the YMCA for a crowd of spectators on the side.



Full of smiles while holding each other tight, seniors Mark Munroe and Samantha Newbeck dance the night away. Many couples were seen gazing into each other's sparkling eyes while slow music played in the background.



# WINTER fantasy

STORY BY:  
ASHLEY JALOVECKY

ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 13, OUR ANNUAL WINTER FORMAL WAS HELD IN THE HIGH SCHOOL'S COMMONS. THE THEME THIS YEAR WAS WINTER FANTASY, AND THAT IT WAS! DECORATIONS WERE EVERYWHERE WITH CASTLES, FAIRIES, AND SNOW SIGNIFYING A TRUE WINTER FANTASY. THERE WAS EVEN AN ICE SCULPTURE OF A CASTLE THAT COST A WHOPPING 400 DOLLARS! "EVERYTHING WAS PIECED TOGETHER REALLY NICELY AND LOOKED GREAT," STATED MATH TEACHER MS. CARLSON. FOR YEARS THE DISC JOCKEY COMPANY ENTERTAINMENT EXPRESS HAS PUMPED THE CROWDS WITH DANCE MUSIC THAT EVERYONE ENJOYS. UNFORTUNATELY THIS YEAR WE HAD THE PLEASURE OF TRYING OUT A NEW DISC JOCKEY, WHICH REPEATED SONGS

AT LEAST THREE TIMES AND DIDN'T REALLY INTERACT WITH EVERYONE ON THE DANCE FLOOR. IN SPITE OF ALL OF THAT EVERYONE SEEMED TO BE HAVING A GREAT TIME THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. "WHEN I THINK BACK ON THE WINTER DANCE I THINK OF DANCING ON THE COMMONS BENCHES TO THE YMCA AND OUR ROMANTIC CHINESE DINNER BEFORE HAND," SAID JUNIOR KALI GIBSON. MANY OF THE STUDENTS THAT ATTENDED THE DANCE AGREE THAT THE DANCING WAS EXTREMELY FUN...MANY MADE THE NIGHT FUN BY LETTING LOOSE AND JUST HAVING A GOOD TIME. DECORATIONS AND DANCING WERE BY FAR THE BEST PARTS THIS YEAR. IT'S A GUARANTEE THAT THE WINTER FORMAL WAS A SMASH THAT EVERYONE WILL REMEMBER IN THE FUTURE.



For the last dance senior Kristopher Enstrom pulled junior Jessica Metz close in his arms. The two of them were nothing but smiles the entire night.

While dancing, juniors Phillip Wright and Christopher Longo stay extremely quiet. Both of their dancing partners were students from a school in Illinois.



As soon as every senior moves their tassels from the left side to the right side of their caps they are official graduates. Hooting and hollering can be heard from every seat in the audience.

After hearing words of encouragement from the guest speaker, all of the seniors lined up from each row to receive their diplomas. All were excited for the simple fact that they would soon be done with high school forever.



Quietly everyone listened as Mr. Kirchner gave words of wisdom to the graduating class of 2005.

A total of 95 seniors graduated this past January. The majority graduated with either the honors or Core 40 diplomas.





# ANOTHER ONE FOR THE books

STORY BY:  
ASHLEY JALOVECKY

TOWARD THE END OF TERM TWO THE HALLWAYS SEEMED EMPTY AND THE LUNCHES FELT BARE. REASON BEING THAT OVER 90 SENIORS HAD LEFT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR SENIOR WEEK BEFORE MID YEAR GRADUATION. ANXIETY AND EXCITEMENT WERE TWO MAJOR FEELINGS ALL OF THE SENIORS FELT AS THEY WERE LEAVING THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD.

MOST PLANNED ON GOING TO COLLEGE OR WORKING FULL TIME AFTER THEY GRADUATED, BUT BEFORE THAT HAPPENED, THEY WERE ALL MORE CONCERNED WITH ONE THING; HIGH SCHOOL WAS FINALLY OVER AND THE NEXT CHAPTER OF THEIR LIFE WAS FINALLY ABOUT TO BEGIN. AFTER GRADUATION THE "REAL" WORLD BEGINS. NO MORE GETTING UP AT THE SAME TIME EVERYDAY TO GO TO A SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT WHERE TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYONE'S ACTIONS. MANY FEEL THIS CHAPTER IN A GRADUATE'S LIFE IS THE BIRD OUT OF THE NEST EFFECT. THIS SIMILE MEANING AS SOON AS YOU TURN 18 AND GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, MOM AND DAD ARE SUPPOSED TO LET GO. IN THE SAME SENSE A MOTHER BIRD LET'S HER BABY FLY AWAY AS SOON AS IT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO FEND FOR ITSELF.

"MY PARENTS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR ME TO GET AN EARLY START ON MY COLLEGE COURSES TO GET A FEEL OF COLLEGE LIFE. THEY DIDN'T WANT EVERYTHING TO ALL DROP ON TOP OF ME AT THE SAME TIME," STATES SENIOR AMY SHAW.

AFTER EVERY SENIOR MOVED HIS OR HER TASSELS FROM THE LEFT TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THEIR CAPS GRADUATION WAS OFFICIALLY COMPLETED. OFFICIAL DIPLOMAS COULD BE PICKED UP AFTER THE CEREMONY IN THE BOOKSTORE. ALL DIPLOMAS WERE HELD JUST IN CASE PEOPLE GOT OUT OF HAND AND WOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO GRADUATE. AFTER THE EVENTS.

A STUDENT ASKED SENIOR DAVID ALLEN WHAT HE WOULD MISS THE MOST AFTER HIGH SCHOOL HE SIMPLY STATED, "ALL OF THE BEAUTIFUL GIRLS."

AS THE NEXT CHAPTER HAS STEADILY PROGRESSED FOR THE SENIORS OF 2005 EVERYONE AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL WOULD LIKE TO WISH THEM NOTHING BUT THE BEST FOR THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.



As they look into the audience, seniors Dana and Danae Krenkel smile at their family members. Since graduation Dana has started college at IUN while Danae traveled to Germany for five weeks.



In a speech about life, senior class president Sarah Tugurian says good-bye to her fellow classmates. Sarah will follow in their footsteps in late spring of this year.



On the dance floor junior Chad Biddle and graduate Laura Anderson get their groove on to one of the hip-hop songs played that night.



## MOONLIGHT

# serenade

STORY BY:  
GENEVIEVE ARNOLD

EVERY YEAR PROM IS THE MAIN EVENT OF THE YEAR.

THIS YEAR'S PROM THEME WAS "MOONLIGHT SERENADE", A MAGICAL AND UNFORGETTABLE ONE.

THEY WERE A LOT OF THINGS DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS PROM AND THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT WERE THE SAME.

"I LOVED THE GIFTS THAT WERE GIVEN TO US AT THE END OF PROM,

THEY WERE A NICE SURPRISE," SAID SENIOR MEREDITH WHEELER.

A VERY DIVERSE PART OF THE PROM WAS THE MUSIC, EVEN THOUGH, MAINLY RAP AND HIP-HOP, THE DJ THREW IN A BIT OF POP, COUNTRY, AND OLDIES.

"I LIKED THE MUSIC AT PROM, BUT I THOUGHT IT COULD OF HAD A LITTLE

\* MORE TECHNO,"  
\* EXPRESSED JUNIOR ANTHONY COSTA.  
\* THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE NIGHT WAS WHEN THE PROM COURT WAS ANNOUNCED, IN THE END THE PROM KING ENDED UP TO BE TIMOTHY SLATTON, AND PROM QUEEN WAS MIRABELLA SELLERS. THE PRINCE WAS RADLEY ALCANTARA AND PRINCESS WAS STEPHANIE TANIS.  
\* "WHEN THEY ANNOUNCED MY NAME AS PROM KING I WAS EXHILARATED. I REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT IT AND IT WAS A GREAT WAY TO REMEMBER MY SENIOR PROM," SAID SENIOR TIMOTHY SLATTON.  
\* OVERALL PROM NIGHT WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AS A SPECTACULAR NIGHT.



With great enthusiasm, senior Kristian Feder and freshman Timothy Thompson dance the night away. Both of them partied hard and danced until they dropped.







The night of Prom, senior Kevin Parkerson and freshman Lisa Samplawain dance together to a current rap song that night. Parkerson is known for his energetic attitude when he participated in OTM, the Variety Show, and Air band for his senior year.

Simply dancing to one of the slow songs that night junior Louis Rubalcaba and junior Kylie Beaudreau hold each other close and stare into each others eyes. Both of them said that their night was incredible.



At the 2005 Prom, "Moonlight Serenade" seniors Holly Benz and Timothy Mocabee dance the night away. This is both Benz and Mocabee last prom until they will graduate next month.



Caught in the moment  
seniors Jason Willis  
and Kali Foyteck  
boogie to the music as  
they shake their hips.  
Both have been in a  
relationship together for  
quite awhile this year.

While dancing to the groovy music  
seniors Sarah Tugurian and Melanee  
Dallas pause to smile for a quick  
picture a friend took.



Being your last prom what was your reaction to  
being nominated and winning prom queen?



Maribel  
Sellers  
12

"I was really excited to get nominated but I  
didn't really expect to win so when I did I  
was extremely shocked and happy."

In each other  
arms, seniors  
Joseph Wadle  
and Catherine  
Andrews hold  
each other tight  
while slow  
dancing. Many  
couples were  
seen slow  
dancing  
throughout the  
long evening.



A group of friends were seen  
laughing and being silly during an  
80's song. Most of the dance moves  
consisted of the robot.







After receiving their crowns the prom court had time to pose for a picture before dancing to the senior song. This year's song was "Wild Nights" by John Mellencamp.

With a huge smile senior Michael Kirk shows off his dance moves to with his friends. Kirk was crowned winter homecoming king during basketball season of 2004.

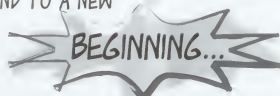




After all the speeches, senior Anthony Espinoza steps forward to receive his graduation diploma. More traditionally, Espinoza was always known for stepping out onto the football field or onto the wrestling mat.



AN END TO A NEW



STORY AND PHOTOS BY:  
KATHERINE BATISTA

SO QUICKLY DO THEY COME, SO QUICKLY DO THEY LEAVE. AFTER RELENTLESS YEARS OF COUNTING DOWN THE TENUOUS DAYS, THE CLASS OF 2005 IS MAKING ITS WAY OUT INTO THE REAL WORLD WITH GREAT ANTICIPATION AND THE SUDDEN ATTACK OF REALISM, THESE SENIORS PROUDLY PREPARE FOR THE DAY OF THEIR CHILDHOOD'S END. THE DAY WHEN THEY WALK ACROSS THAT MOMENTOUS STAGE AND RECEIVE A DECLARATION OF ALL THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. SOON THEY WILL EMBARK ON THE JOURNEY OF THEIR FUTURES. HERE FORWARD, THE REST OF THEIR LIVES ARE IN THE HANDS OF STRANGERS NO MORE, BUT IN THE DIRECTION OF THEIR OWN ALTERNATIVE PESTINIES.

"I THINK GRADUATION IS THE POINT IN ALL OF OUR LIVES WHERE WE'RE SO GLAD THAT WE'RE FINALLY DONE. ALTHOUGH MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER IS SOMETHING I WILL NEVER FORGET, I LOOK FORWARD TO MY FUTURE," EXPLAINED SENIOR ROBERT BAILEY. WITH THESE GRADUATES LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE AND LEARNING FROM THE PAST, IT IS A RARITY TO COME ACROSS A SENIOR WHO DOESN'T ALREADY HAVE PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING FALL. WHETHER IT BE ENROLLING INTO A UNIVERSITY OR JUMPING RIGHT INTO A CAREER, THESE SENIORS HAVE THEIR INTENTIONAL PLANS SET.

"I'M NOT GOING TO COLLEGE RIGHT AWAY. FIRST, I'M IMMEDIATELY GOING TO BEGIN WORK FOR A HEATING AND COOLING COMPANY. THEN, I PLAN ON STARTING SCHOOL," SAID SENIOR JAMES MARTINEZ.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE PREPARED FOR THE ROAD AHEAD, GRADUATION HAS BECOME A LONG AWAITED OPPORTUNITY RATHER THAN A RANDOM WALK INTO AN UNKNOWN TERRITORY.

"GRADUATION IS A TREMENDOUS STEP FOR MANY PEOPLE. ALTHOUGH IT REPRESENTS THE END OF HIGH SCHOOL, IT SYMBOLIZES THE BEGINNING OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE," EXPRESSED SENIOR MELANEE DALLAS.





Known for their comic relief, seniors Daniel Biby, Phillip Cowger, and Eli Collazo stop to show off a few poses. Enjoying the attention, the boys get ready for the ceremony to begin.



Off the field, seniors Robert Kroschwitz, Marcus Jones, Heria Dunn, Evan Blanton, Zachary Bohling, Andrew Druschak, and Mikm Rivera pose for a picture. These boys are the senior Varsity baseball players.

Before the commencement ceremony, senior Christopher Bolint lines up with the rest of his senior class. Bolint begins to celebrate graduation even before he receives his diploma.



What do you plan on doing after graduation?

"In the fall, I'm moving to Port Wayne to pursue elementary education."

-Maribel Sellera



"I'm going to intern, doing web design and open my own web designing business to pay for college."

-Mikah Telford



"I will be attending IUN in the fall for x-ray technology and then transfer to IU Bloomington to further my career."

-Robert Vargas



"I'm going to the University of Southern Indiana to study Biology and Pre-Medicine."

-Steven Rosenbaum





# Album





# Time As It

*By: Genevieve Arnold & Designed by Co-Editor Meredith McLeod*

# Flies By

TIME GOES BY SO FAST AND WE TAKE SO MUCH OF IT FOR GRANTED. OUR FOUR YEARS IN HIGH SCHOOL ARE SOME OF THE MOST PRECIOUS AND MOST SPECIAL IN OUR LIVES. STUDENTS EXPERIENCE SO MUCH THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, AND LEARN FROM THEIR TRIUMPHS AND MISTAKES. WE KNOW NOW THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION AND THE VALUES THAT OUR PARENTS TAUGHT US. FOR WHEN OUR PARENTS WERE YOUNG AND NAIVE MUCH AS WE ARE NOW WE ARE LEARNING SOME OF THE SAME LESSONS THAT THEY WERE LEARNING THEN AND DURING THEIR SCHOOLING. IN THE 80'S THE LIFE FILLED WITH EDUCATION AND SCHOOLING WASN'T AS IMPORTANT AND AS PERTINENT AS IT IS FOR

STUDENTS NOW. OUR GENERATION IS SO MUCH SMARTER AND BRIGHTER, EVEN THOUGH A LOT OF THE TIMES, WE DO NOT EVEN REALIZE IT. OUR LIVES IN HIGH SCHOOL ARE FEW AND NUMBERED, AND STUDENTS DO NOT REALIZE THAT FACT UNTIL WE ARE FINALLY RECEIVING OUR DIPLOMA. EVEN THE FACULTY FEELS AS THOUGH IT IS THE END OF A SAGA. FROM THE 80'S TO THE NOW, TEACHERS FEEL SOME FORM OF LOSS WHEN ANOTHER YEAR GRADUATES AND ANOTHER YEAR IS SET IN STONE. EVEN THOUGH THE YEARS AHEAD OF US ARE GOING TO BE EVEN GREATER AND BRING US EVEN MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO OUR DOOR, WE SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER AND CHERISH THE YEARS THAT WE HAD AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.





# seniors



**Joshua Adkins**

**Joseph Aimone**

Football 9-11

**David Allen**

**Daniel Alonzo**

**Catherine Andrews**

Soccer 9-10, Tennis 9-10, National Honor Society 11-12, Student Council 9-12, Natural Helpers 11, Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 11-12, Class Treasurer 12

**Genevieve Arnold**

Art Club 9-12, Writers Block 11-12, Multicultural Club 11-12, Multicultural Club Treasure 11, Multicultural Club Vice President 12, Legend 12, National Honor Society 12, Campus Life 12

**Brittany Ball**

**Brittany Banic**

**James Bardsley**

**Jackie Barnum**

Soccer 9-12, Tennis 9-12, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 10-12, Student Council 9-12, ACES 12, Natural Helpers 11, Prom Court 11 Homecoming Court 11-12, Air Band 12, Latin Club 11-12

**Christopher Bartley**

**Caitlin Bartz**

Pow Wow 10-11, National Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Powder-puff Game 11-12

**Ryan Bauer**

**Nicole Beal**

**Leah Bears**

Cross Country 9-12, Basketball 9, Track 9-12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, HOSA 12, ACES 12, Leadership 12







# **Lauren Beller**

Swimming team 10, POMS 9, HOSA 11, Student Council 9-10

# **Holly Benz**

Concert Choir 9, Choraliers, 10, 12, Glee Choir 10, Symphonic Choir 11-12, Spring Musical 10, National Honor Society 12, Senior Girls Club 12

# **Ambrea Berryman**

## **Daniel Biby**

Soccer 9-12, Baseball 9-10, Outstanding Young Man 12, Academic Teams 9-10, 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 10-11, ACES 12, Chess Club 9-12, Homecoming Court 11, Air Band 12, Variety Show 12, Soccer MVP

# **Jessica Blanton**

Student Council 9-10, Peer Tutor 9, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Knitting Club 12, French Club 11-12

# **Megan Boch**

## **Jessica Boer**

Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, 11, Speech Team 9, Concert Band 9, Marching Band 9-10, Symphonic Band 10-12, Jazz Band 9, Northwest Indiana Symphony Youth Orchestra 9-12, Indiana All State Band 11-12, Orchestra Winds 9-12

# **Christopher Bolint**

## **Gene Braun**

## **Ehric Brink**

Track 9-12, Pep Band 9-12, Wrestling 9, Football 9, 11, Concert Band 9-10, Marching Band 10, Symphonic Band 11-12, Athletic Trainer 11

# **Bryon Bristo**

## **Erica Brown**

ROTC 9-12, Peer Tutor 11-12

## **William Brown**

## **Dennis Brubaker**

## **Andrew Buczek**

# **Ryan Butera**

## **Reynaldo Calaug**

## **Kari Campbell**

Golf 9-12, Basketball 9, Track 9, Junior Miss 11, Peer Tutor 9-10, Homecoming Court 12, Leadership 11, Golf Rookie of the Year 9, MVP: Golf 11-12, Boys Basketball Manager 10, Golf Team Captain 11-12

# **Kelly Canner**

Fall Play 10-12, Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, Spring Musical 10, Spring Musical Pit Choir 11, Helper for Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Concert Orchestra 9, Symphonic Choir 9-12

# **Gary Carroll III**

## **Nicole Catlin**

Volleyball 9-12, Basketball 9-10, 12, Track 9-10, Homecoming Court 12

# **Stevie Chaddock**

## **Alejandro Chavez**

Multicultural Club 10, Business Professionals of America 12

# **Krisan Cieszkiewicz**

Legend 10-12, Quill and Scroll 10-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Knitting Club 12, French Club 12

# **Veronica Colburn**

## **Justin Collins**

## **Randi Colville**

## **Kayla Conroy**

Fall Play 10, Campus Life 10-12, HOSA 12, Knitting Club 12

# **Robert Crecelius**

## **Christopher Curiel**



**Melissa Dabu**  
**Melanee Dallas**

Cheerleading 9, Spring Musical 9-10, Junior Miss 11, HOSA President 11, Student Council 9 10, Natural Helpers 11-12, Powder Puff Football Game 11-12, Senior Girls Club 12

**Amy Danielewicz**

**Kyle Dean**

Soccer 9-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Business Professionals of America 11, Latin Club 10

**Danielle Dienes**



**Matthew Dietz**

**Angelica Dillin**

Basketball 9, Boys Basketball Manager 10

**Kevin Dixon**

Tennis 9-12, Basketball 9-12, Baseball 9-12

**Timothy Dohner**

**Krystle Dove**

Student Council 9-10, Swimming Team 9-11, Athletic Trainer 11, Powder-puff Football Game 11, Spring Musical 12, HOSA 12, Knitting Club 12, Writers Block 12



**Andrew Dranchak**

Football 9-12, Baseball 9-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, Chess Club 10-12,

**Ashley Edmonds**

**Kelly Elsey**

**Matthew Engel**

Tennis 9-12, Basketball 9-10, Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Chess Club 9-10, Cardboard Boat Regatta 9-10

**Kris Enstrom**



IN THE HOMECOMING PARADE ALL OF THE QUEEN NOMINEES WAVE TO THEIR PEERS IN HOPES OF WINNING THE CROWN DURING HALF TIME AT THE FOOTBALL GAME. SENIOR CARA HARMON SMILES BEFORE THE GAME WHERE SHE TAKES THE TITLE AS THE HOMECOMING QUEEN OF 2005.

AS A PART OF THE FESTIVITIES DURING THE PER FALLS, ALL OF THE SENIOR GIRLS GOT TOGETHER WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT TO REHEARSE A ROUTINE FOR THE CROWD. DURING THE PERFORMANCE THE GIRLS WHOLEHEARTEDLY GOT DOWN WITH THEIR BAD SELVES.







ONE OF THE BETTER IDEAS DURING THE VARIETY SHOW WERE THE SUCES THAT PLAYED LIVE. SENIORS TIMOTHY DANNER AND BRETT SPOTTEN HAD A BLAST ON STAGE AS THEY PERFORMED A MORE RECENT GREEN DAY SONG.

CONTENT AND PATIENT THE MIDYEAR GRADUATES WAIT FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THEY ARE FINISHED WITH HIGH SCHOOL. ALL WERE VERY AMICIOUS DURING THE CEREMONY.



**Melanie Fabian**

**Joshua Steven Farley**

Beginning Band 9, Ice Hockey 9-10, 12, Captain 12, Orchestra Winds 10-12, Saga 12, Concert band 10, Symphonic Band 11-12, Leadership 10

**Kristin Fedor**

Play 11-12, Musical 9-12, NHS 11-12, FLHS 10-12, ACES 12, Thespians 10-12, Marching Band 9-10, Symphonic Band 9-12, Pep Band 9, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Choraliers 10-12, Symphonic Choir 10-12, Peer Tutor 11-12, Air Band 10

**Ashley Fields**

**Natalie Finnegan**

Tennis 9, Student Council 10-11, Concert Choir 9, Glee Choir 10, Class Club 10-11

**Dustin Foster**

Fall Play 11-12, Spring Musical 10-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, Thespians 11-12, POW WOW 11-12, Quill and Scroll 10-12, Air Band 10, Latin Club 9-12, Boys State 11-12

**Bryana Fravel**

**Jennifer Furgey**

**Bobby Gifford**

**Bryan Gilbert**

Track 9-12, Track and Field Letters 9, 11-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, Athletic Trainer 12, Spanish Club 12



**Brittany Gill**  
**Raymond Goss**  
**Nolan Graves**  
**Amanda Gray**

Student Council 9-12, ROTC 11-12, Peer Tutor 9,  
 JROTC Drill 12

**Jessica Guffey**

**Douglas Hale**

**Mark Hallmen Jr.**

Football 9-11, Wrestling 9, Business Professionals  
 of America 11, Academy of Finance 10-12

**Teri Harrington**

Student Council 9-11, Softball 9-12, Legend 10-  
 12, Quill and Scroll 10-12 Junior Miss 11, Powder  
 Puff Football Game 11, 12, FLHS 11-12, Legend  
 Assistant Editor 12, Natural Helpers 12,

**Sarah Harris**

Cross County 9-12, Swimming Team 9-10, Swim  
 Team Captain 12, Track 9-10, Junior Miss 11, HOSA  
 11, Peer Tutor 10-12, Latin Club 9-12

**Jessica Hatfield**

**Amanda Hayes**

**Charlotte Heckman**

**Andrew Hernandez**

**Justin Hess**

**Whitney Hill**

**David Hinojosa**

Fall Play 9-12, Spring Musical 9-11, Outstanding  
 Young Man 12, Academic Teams 10, National Honor  
 Society 11-12, Student Council 10-11, Student  
 Council Secretary 12, Thespians 9-10, Thespian  
 Vice President 11, Thespian President 12, POW  
 WOW 10, POW WOW Assistant Editor 11, Quill and  
 Scroll 10, Concert Orchestra 9, Prom Court 11,  
 Homecoming Court 11, Variety Show 11, Leadership  
 MVP 12

**Steven Hohnacki**

**Cara Horner**

Volleyball 9-12, Softball 9-12, Basketball 9, Natural  
 Helpers 12, Peer Tutor 10-12, Homecoming Queen  
 12

**Jessica Houser**

**Jacob Huston**



EVERY YEAR AT THE VARIETY  
 SHOW THE SENIOR BOYS GET  
 TOGETHER AND MAKE UP A  
 ROUTINE FOR THE BITCHIN'  
 BALLETINAS SEGMENT THIS YEAR  
 THE BOYS WORKED EXTREMELY  
 HARD AND BLEW AWAY THE  
 AUDIENCE WITH PURE LAUGHTER







AT ONE OF THE LAST HOME GAMES SENIOR LINDSEY WARFIELD STANDS WITH HER PROUD PARENTS ON THE FIELD FOR SENIOR NIGHT. WARFIELD ALSO GRADUATED MERTON WITH HONORS THIS YEAR.

ROUGH AND TOUGH THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL PLAYERS SIT ON A SEMI TRAILER DURING THE FALL HOMECOMING PARADE. THEY ENDED UP WINNING THE GAME AGAINST MICHIGAN CITY LATER THAT NIGHT.



#### **Ashley Jalovecky**

Student Council 9-10, Cheerleading 9-10, Spring Musical 9-11, Air Band 9-12, Legend 11-12, Quill and Scroll 11-12, Poms 11, Poms Letter 11, Natural Helpers 12, Writers Block 12, Choreographed Student Faculty Game Cheerleaders

#### **Carlos Jimenez**

**Chris Jordan**

**Megan Keen**

**David Kendall**

Latin Club 9-12, HOSA 11, Youth Government Day 12



#### **Ashley Kirkpatrick**

**Elizabeth Koonce**

Swimming Team 10, Poms 9, Fall Play 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 01, HOSA 11 12, Student Council 10-12, Natural Helpers 11-12, Thespians 11, Vocational Honor Society 11 12, Powder-puff Football Game 12

#### **Steven Kowalczyk**

**Kendal Krass**

**Dominique Lamar**



IN A PYROTECHNIC SENIOR ROBERTA VARGAS JOINS TO HER FELLOW CLASSMATES AT THE FALL HOMEcoming HER FOLLY BEING THE THIRTY GIRLS ON THE SQUAD GIVES HER AN ADVANTAGE TO BEING A FURY



ONE OF THE GREATEST BONDING EXPERIENCES A HIGH SCHOOLER CAN BE A PART OF IS NATURAL HELPERS. EVERYONE BECAME EXTREMELY CLOSE DURING THE WEEKEND RETREAT AND GAINED MORE FRIENDSHIPS ONE PERSON COULD ONLY WISH TO HAVE.



**Ashley Lankford**  
**David Larson**  
**Anthony Leal**

Soccer 9-11, Basketball 9-12, Basketball Captain 12, Track 11, Outstanding Young Man 12, Winter Homecoming Court 11, Leadership 11

**Steven Leffert**  
**Steven Lehmann**



**Micheal Leucuta**  
**Brittany Lewis**  
**Rebecca Leyba**  
**Ashley Liebig**  
**Samantha Lingenfelter**

Spring Musical 9-11, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Natural Helpers 11 12, Concert Band 9, Marching Band 9-12, Symphonic Band 10-12, Pep Band 9-11, Choraliers 10-12, Concert Choir 9, Symphonic Choir 10-12







**Nicole Lopez**  
**Lee Lubbock**  
 Athletic Trainer 9-12, Concert Choir 11, Special  
 Olympics Basketball  
**Sarah Lubbock**  
 Honor Roll 9-12  
**Blake Luck**  
**Charles Mahaffey**

**Mitchell Mannino**  
 SAGA 10, Variety 10-12  
**Heather Markwell**  
 Cross Country 9-11, Basketball 9-12, Prom Court  
 12, Leadership 12, Captain of Basketball 12  
**Tracy Markwell**  
 Cross Country 9-11, Basketball 9-12, Softball 9-  
 12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11  
**Megan Martin**  
 Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, Foreign Language  
 Honor Society 11, Concert Orchestra 10-12, French  
 Club 9-12, French Club Vice President 11, French  
 Club Treasurer 12, Chamber Strings Orchestra 9,  
 Prom Committee 11, Arrowhead Ambassador 12  
**James Martinez**  
**Vanessa Mayfield**  
 Volleyball 9, Spring Musical 9, Concert band 9,  
 Marching Band 9-10, Symphonic band 10-12, Pep  
 Band 9, Jazz Band 10 11  
**Micheal McCorkle**  
**Jacob McCorkmick**  
**Daniel McCune**  
**Danielle McIntyre**

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY  
 TO THE UNDERCLASSMEN? SUCH AS WORDS OF  
 ADVISE OR A QUOTE FROM YOU TO THEM.



"DON'T LET THINGS THAT PEOPLE SAY  
 GET TO YOU. JUST WORK HARD AND  
 DON'T GET CAUGHT UP IN GOSSIP" -  
 SENIOR TERI HARRINGTON

"IN MY EXPERIENCE I CAN TELL YOU ONE  
 IMPORTANT THING TO LEARN IS WHEN TO  
 STUDY AND WHEN NOT TO STUDY. MAKE  
 AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE AND  
 DON'T TRY TO GROW UP TOO FAST" -  
 SENIOR MICHAEL KIRK



every year nominees for  
 homecoming court change  
 series for a brief moment  
 and switch roles in a  
 mockery court. the crowd  
 cheers for who they think  
 should win the crown during  
 the pep rally.



**Meredith McLeod**

Legend 10-12, Quill and Scroll 10-12 Legend Co-Editor 12

**Jessica McWhirter**

Volleyball 9-11

**Brandon Melicic****Nina Mendoza**

Peer Tutor 9-12, Leadership 11

**Laura Merkle**

Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Junior Miss 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up 12, ACES 12, Knitting Club 12, Powder Puff Football Game 11-12

**Jason Mihal****Jessica Mills****Tarin Milligan**

Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Natural Helpers 11, Concert Band 9, Symphonic Band 10-12

**Timothy Mocabee****Amanda Morales**

Poms 9, Poms Letter, Fall Play 9-12, Spring Musical 9-12, Junior Miss Winner 11, Academic Teams 10, Academic Hall of Fame, National Honor Society 11-12, Student Council 9-12, Student Council Representative 9-12, Natural Helpers 12, Thespians 9-12, Thespian President 9-12, Thespian Letters



AFTER WARM UPS AND BEFORE THE POWDERPUFF GAME ALL OF THE SENIOR GIRLS GOT TOGETHER FOR A GROUP PICTURE. THE GIRLS ENDED UP DEFEATING THE JUNIOR GIRLS WITH BY AN EXTREME AMOUNT OF POINTS.



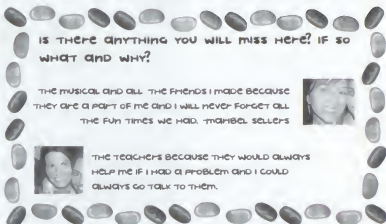
ON THE NATURAL HELPERS RETREAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE RAINBOW STAFF BOTH SENIORS, BETHANN GILL AND SHAWN GORDON POSE FOR A PICTURE. THE RAINBOW STAFF IS CHOSEN FROM A NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE ATTENDED THE RETREAT IN THE PAST.







BASKETBALL BEING THE EXTREME SPORT THAT IT IS TAKES HARD WORK AND DEDICATION. SENIOR NICOLE CATTAN SHOWS BOTH AS SHE SCORES A BASKET FOR PORTAGE.



IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WILL MISS HERE? IF SO WHAT AND WHY?

THE MUSICAL AND ALL THE FRIENDS I MADE BECAUSE THEY ARE A PART OF ME AND I WILL NEVER FORGET ALL THE FUN TIMES WE HAD. MARIBEL SELLERS



THE TEACHERS BECAUSE THEY WOULD ALWAYS HELP ME IF I HAD A PROBLEM AND I COULD ALWAYS GO TALK TO THEM.



**Brandon Morgan**  
**Raymond Moritz**  
**Melissa Mullin**  
**Eric Mundt**

Cross Country 9-11, Swimming Team 9-12, Wrestling Captain 9-12, Track 9, Spring Musical 12, Outstanding Young Man 1<sup>st</sup> Runner up 12, National Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Powderpuff Football Game Coach 12, Air Band 11-12, Variety Show 12, Leadership

**Mark Munro**  
Football 12, Wrestling 9-10, Vocational Honor Society 12

**Charles Joseph Murphy**  
FLHSociety 11-12, BPA 11-12

**Stephen Nagler**  
**Michael Nasiatka**  
**Katie Nelson**

Cross Country 9-12, Track 9-12, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, ACES 12, Art Club 9, Writers Block 9, Thespians 9-11, Concert Choir 9-12, Reading Club 9, Campus Life 10-12, Stage Crew 9-12, Cross Country Captain 12, Track Captain 12

**Kimberly Nelson**  
Pow Wow 10-12, Art Club 10, Fall Play 12

**Samantha Newbeck**  
Spring Musical 10, Choraliers 10-12, Concert Choir 9, Glee Choir 10, 12, Symphonic Choir 10-12, Peer Tutor 9, 10-12, Campus Life 9-12,

**Cory Nigh**  
**Genevieve Nimeth**  
Concert Orchestra 9-12, Pow Wow 10-12, Legend 12, Natural Helpers 12, Powderpuff Game 12

**Bradley Norius**  
**Tegan Ortiz**

Swimming Team Manager 9-10, FLHS 11-12, Art Club 10-11, Knitting Club 12, Reading Club 12, Multicultural Club 9-12, Campus Life 12

**Athanasia Papachronis**  
Track 9-12, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Symphonic Orchestra 9-12

**Kevin Parkerson**  
Cross Country 9-12, Track 9-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 12, ACES 12, Concert Band 9, Variety Show 12

**Ashley Parrish**  
Jazz Band 9, Concert Band 9-10, FLHS 11, Campus Life 11 Symphonic Band 11-12, ACES 12

**Alexander Passo**  
**Christina Pearson**





WITH A SLIGHT SMILE SENIOR  
GISELY JOLOBECKY GRACIOUSLY  
WANTS TO RECEIVE HER DIPLOMA.  
JOLOBECKY WILL BE ATTENDING  
NMU IN THE FALL FOR THE STUDY  
OF PSYCHOLOGY



**Kristina Pekovic**

Tennis 9, Academic Teams 11-12, National Honor Society 12, FLHSociety 12, VHS 11, Athletic Trainer 11, Powder Puff Football Game 12

**Cara Pivarnik**

Basketball 9, Softball 9 10, HOSA 11, Peer Tutor 12, Senior Girls Club 12

**Alex Popplewell**

**Danielle Rader**

Concert Choir 9-11, Girls Glee Choir 12

**David Rains**

**David Reisen**

**Joshua Rey**

**Kyle Ribar**

**Jaqueline Rice**

Spring Musical 9, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, French Club 11 12, ACES 12, Academic Teams 11-12, Academic Decathlon 11-12

**Megan Richmond**

Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, Chamber Orchestra 9, Writers Block 9-10, Marching Band 9, Art Club 9-10, Environmental Club 10, Reading Club 9, 10, Peer Tutor 9, Northwest Indiana Youth Orchestra 10-11, Chess Club 11, Concert Orchestra 10, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Hoosier Girls State 11, Legend 11-12, Legend Assistant Editor 12, Tae Kwon Do 12

**Jason Ricker**

**Jessica Riffett**

**Christopher Rigoni**

**Jessica Ring**

Pow Wow 10, 12, Pow Wow Editor In Chief 12

**Matthew Rio**







**Joshua Rodriguez**

**Sarah Rogers**

**William Ronk**

**John Rooney**

Football 9-12, Track 9-12

**Steven Rosenbaum**

Football 9-10, Basketball 9-10, National Honor Society 11-12, HOSA 11, Foreign Language Honor Society 12, Vocational Honor Society, Peer Tutors, Powder Puff (Coach) 11-12, Variety Show 12, Latin Club 10-12, Leadership 12

**Paige Roy**

Basketball 9, Softball 9-10, Sophomore Class, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Student Council 9-12, Junior Class, ACES 12, Business Professionals of America 11-12, Campus Life 9-12, Homecoming Court 12, Powder-puff Football game 11-12, Arrowhead Ambassador 12

**Megan Royce**

**Trisha Sabocik**

Gymnastics 9, Diving Team 11, Cheerleading 9-11, Fall Play 11-12, Spring Musical 10-11, Junior Miss 11, Student Council Rep 9-12, Natural Helpers 11, Thespians 10-12, Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 11-12, Air Band 12, Variety Show 10-12, Fine Arts Program Showcase 11

**Amy Samplawski**

Volleyball 9-12, Basketball 9-12, Softball 9-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12,

**Jovanny Sanchez**

Basketball 9, Pow Wow 10-12

**Micheal Sandage**

**Erica Sanetznik**

**Sarah Santana**

Multicultural Club 9-12, Campus Life 11-12, Reading Club 12, Art Club 11-12, Environmental Club 10, Swim Team Manager 9-10

**Rachael Sarson**

Concert Choir 9, Student Council 9-12, Campus Life 10-11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Natural Helpers 11, Business Professionals of America 11 12, Powder-puff football game 12, ACES 12

**Mark Scheuer**

WHAT ARE THE BEST EXPERIENCES YOU HAVE HAD IN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER HERE AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL?



FOOTBALL GAMES! IT WAS THE BEST PLAYING AND WATCHING EVERYONE IN THE CROWD CHEER FOR US. MARK HALLMEN

THE BEST EXPERIENCES I HAVE HAD ARE THE ONES I SPENT WITH MY FRIENDS THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL. AMY SAMPLAWSKI



IN THE SPRING MUSICAL SENIORS MARCEL ELLERS, SHANNON STUTLER, BRITTANY BARK, AND ANDRADO WERE SING THE HIT POSITION MY EVERY SONG TOOK THE AUDIENCE BACK TO THE 50S AND 60S.





**Ashlee Schuler**

Football 9-12, Basketball 9-10, Baseball 9-11,  
Outstanding Young Man Helper 12, HOSA 12,  
Student Council 9-10, Natural Helpers 12, Film  
Study Club 12

**Amy Shay**

Student Council 11, Spanish Club 9

**Matthew Shepherd**

Pow Wow 10-12,

**Joel Slankowski****Timothy Slatten**

Concert Orchestra 9, Spring Musical 9, 12,  
Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Spanish  
Club 11, Academic Teams 11-12, MVP Academic  
Decathlon 11-12, National Honor Society 11-12,  
FLHS 11-12, Air Band 12, Variety  
Show 12, Outstanding Young Man 12, ACES 12

**Emily Smith**

Concert Choir 9-11, Glee Choir 11-12, Glee Choir  
Librarian 11-12, Student Council 11

**Brett Spotten**

Cross Country 9-12, Track 9-12, Outstanding  
Young Man 12, Vocational Honor Society 12, Variety  
Show 12

**Phillip Stamms****Jeanna Stolarz****Nicholas Sturges**

Spring Musical 9-11, Baseball 9, Outstanding Young  
Man 12, Choraliers 10, Concert Choir 9, Symphonic  
Choir 9-12, Variety Show 9, 11

**Shannon Stutler**

Spring Musical 9-12, Symphonic Orchestra 9-11,  
Concert choir 9, Campus life 9-10, Choraliers 10-  
12, Choraliers Vice President 10-12, Symphonic  
Choir 10-12, Theatrics 10-12, Fall Play 10-11,  
Junior Miss Semi Finalist 11, National Honor Society  
11-12, National Honor Society President 11-12,  
Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Natural  
Helpers 12, ACES 12, Variety Show 12

**Scott Swanson****Stephen Sweat****Sarah Tugurian****Molly Talbot****Ashley Tamietto****Micah Tilford**

Football 9-12, Basketball 9-10, Track 9, Outstanding  
Young Man 12, Air Band 11

**Steven Trathen**

Pow Wow 10-11

**Rebecca Turpin**

Volleyball 9, Academic Teams 11, National Honor Society  
11-12, National Honor Society Secretary 12,

**Clarence Underwood III**

BUFF BOYS AND ALL THE SENIOR  
BOYS SHOW WHAT THEY HAVE TO  
OFFER TO THE CAMERA. MANY OF  
THE BOYS HAVE BEEN FRIENDS  
SINCE THEY WERE YOUNG AND  
WANTED TO SHOW THEIR TOUGH  
BUT SINCERE SIDE IN THIS PICTURE.







**Ashley Vargas**

Poms 9-11, Spring Musical 11, National Honor Society 12, Concert Band 9, Air Band 10-11

**Roberta Vargas**

Cheerleading 9-12, Gymnastics 9, Junior Miss 11, Natural Helpers 11, Student Council 9-10

**Camilo Vega**

**Amanda Via**

**Antionette Vulpitta**



**Joseph Wadle**

**Kandice Wallskog**

Art Club 11, Writers Block 12, Concert Band 9 10, Concert Orchestra 9-10, Symphonic Band 11-12, Multicultural Club 11, Spanish Club 11

**Heather Watson**

**Meredith Wheeler**

Basketball 9, Campus Life 9-12, Peer Tutor 9, Leadership 11

**Rachael Whitworth**

Peer Tutor 9-12, Multicultural Club 10-12, Student Council 11-12, Chairman of Powder-puff football game 11-12, Leadership 11-12, Helped with Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 12, Foreign Language Honor Society 12, Math Department Tutor 12, Chairman of Food Drive 11-12

**Justin Wilbanks**

**Kevin Wilhelm**

**Randall Wilkenning**

**Marissa Wright**

**Nathan Wright**



**Kelley Yudd**

Legend 10-12, Legend Co-Editor 12, Quill and Scroll 10-12

**Matthew Zaper**

Concert Orchestra 9, Intermediate Orchestra 10, Symphonic Orchestra 11, Advanced Orchestra 12,

**Jana Zervos**

Concert Orchestra 9, Variety Show 9-12, Spring Musical 9-12, Fall Play 10-12, Thespians 10-12, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Student Council 12, Knitting Club 12, Vocational Honor Society 12, Performed for Junior Miss Contests 10-11



FOR THEIR LAST FROM THE SENIOR GIRLS WANTED TO HAVE A PICTURE THAT SHOWED JUST HOW CLOSE EVERYONE REALLY WAS. ALL THAT ARE PICTURED HAVE HAD A BIG IMPACT ON MANY OF THE ACTIVITIES THE HIGH SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER TO THEIR STUDENTS.







# SENIORS NOT PICTURED

Andrew Adair  
Jason Aimutis  
Jacob Akins  
Monika Alexander  
Manuel Alicea  
Alicia Allen  
Richard Alliss  
Derek Andrews  
Jacinta Anekwe  
Krista Arvidson  
Brian Ayers  
Jessica Bailey  
Robert Bailey  
Robin Bailey  
Christopher Balding  
Aimee Bass  
Gabrielle Bassett  
Buster Battreall  
Melissa Beal  
Brandon Bement  
Brett Bernes  
Brian Blanton  
Rachel Blejski  
Zachary Bohling  
Amber Bolen  
Kaylyn Bornheim  
Laura Boskey  
Brittany Bowen  
Steven Brenan  
Jacoby Brewer  
Antoine Brown  
Jeannie Bruhn  
Kenneth Bryan  
Stephanie Bryan  
Jeffery Bucy  
Jeremy Bucy  
Samantha Buge  
Nicholas Cabanas  
Lisa Casper  
Ryan Cepolski  
Stevie Chaddock  
Sharise Chancey  
Shiela Chancey  
Kristen Clark  
Kayla Cochran  
Eli Collazo  
Jose Collazo  
Andrew Colvin  
Sadie Conover  
Adam Cook  
Brandon Council  
Phillip Cowger  
Shawn Cox  
Ashley Craft  
Christina Creen  
Katelyn Davenport  
Mary Demmon  
Michael Demmon  
Staci DePriest  
Kyle Devaney  
Mitchell Diamond  
Daniel Diaz  
Angela Donohue  
Dezso Duerr  
Stefanie Durkin  
Kristian Edders  
Anthony Edwards  
Leroy Edwards

Tiffany Efantis  
Kelly Eisey  
Anthony Espinoza  
Brittany Esposito  
William Evans  
Stephen Evola  
Andrew Fletter  
Michael Ford  
Lauren Foye  
Kali Foyteck  
Steven Frye  
Gina Gaboian  
Alex Gallegos  
Shaun Gannon  
Sharon Gaul  
James Geary  
Samantha Gembala  
Amber Gentry  
Dominique Gibson  
Samantha Giorgi  
Ryan Gonzalez  
Tahana Good  
Steven Gossett  
Gregory Graczyk  
Sarah Gramhofer  
David Granillo  
Monica Green  
Daniel Grindey  
Neal Guidarelli  
Tiffany Gurski  
Genesis Guzman  
Jacqueline Hagan  
Jonathon Halfmann  
Christina Hancock  
Nathan Hand  
Patrick Hand  
Lisa Hansen  
Matthew Helpingstone  
John Hennessy  
Joshua Henry  
Andrew Hernandez  
Crystal Herr  
John Hesseltine  
Brie Hettrick  
Mary Horvath  
Jeremy Hostetler  
Rebecca Hostetter  
Peter Hubbard  
James Huckaby  
Heather Hufgard  
Eugene Irizarry  
Marko Ivanovic  
Jennifer Jacobs  
James Jadrych  
Amanda Jancarc  
Darko Jasnic  
Steven Johnson  
Jay Jones  
Marc Jones  
Audrey Kalman  
Amanda Kapalko  
Albert Kaufmann  
Joel Keel  
Brad Kemp  
Adam Kilgore  
Michael Kirk  
Danny Kladis  
Jennifer Knudsen

John Kornacki  
Steven Kranick  
Dana Krenkel  
Danae Krenkel  
Robert Krooswyk  
Michael Kshneruk  
Michael Ladendorf  
Richard Layba  
Robert Leib  
Michael Leith  
Brandon Lewis  
Rebecca Leyba  
Jeremy Ling  
Eric Loeffler  
Rebecca Loeffler  
Jessica Ludwig  
Jaime Luedtke  
Elizabeth Malast  
Ivan Malik  
Jennifer Manning  
Brandon Marcotte  
Shariliz Martinez  
Thomas Mayoch  
Eric Mays  
Ashley Mazur  
Zachary Mazur  
Kimberly McClellan  
Thomas McClellan  
Monica McCormick  
Eric McGann  
Romika McQueen  
Kristopher Meanovich  
Sean Meehan  
Joseph Mendoza  
Meghann Mesich  
William Messer  
Rebecca Meyers  
Vanessa Minard  
Steven Mitre  
Erin Mitts  
Jennifer Mola  
Ryan Mueller  
Alex Mulherin  
Charles Munsell  
Nedal Nabhan  
Daniel Nowaczky  
Sarah Orlich  
Michelle Otero  
Ryan Palmer  
Michael Parker  
Michelle Parker  
Tiare Parker  
Melissa Pawelko  
Jennifer Perrine  
Matthew Plummer  
Dean Pontjeris  
Ioanna Prassas  
LaTisha Pride  
Stephanie Pugh  
Stephan Puskac  
William Rager  
Brandy Reiner  
Jacob Reynolds  
Keith Rhodes  
Aaron Riley  
Kyle Riley  
Nathaniel Ritchie  
Milton Rivera

Tony Rivera  
Tonya Robbins  
Erica Rodriguez  
Nicole Rodriguez  
Nina Rodriguez  
Yesenia Rodriguez  
Joshua Rosendaw  
Brandon Rowland  
Louis Rualcaba  
Steven Sabich  
Alfredo Sanchez  
Damon Sanchez  
Natasha Schaefer  
Michael Schmitz  
Amanda Schreiber  
Steven Schultz  
James Scobey  
Christy Scott  
Maribel Sellers  
Scott Shannon  
Christopher Sholar  
Eric Silva  
Denise Singh  
Jesse Sklarz  
Joel Slamkowski  
Ashley Smith  
Paige Smith  
Nicholas Spasoff  
Ronald Spear  
Ashley Sprague  
David Staples  
Stephanie Stasi  
Lynda Stinson  
Jessica Szabo  
Jennifer Tauber  
Darren Thompson  
Cateilinn Tibbetts  
Shaun Tooze  
Robert Tuesburg  
John Tuomi  
Jessica Valle  
Donald Vander Wal  
Craig Vargas  
Vinicio Vasconcelos  
Eric Vasquez  
Rachel Vasquez  
Luis Villarreal  
Josette Villegas  
Amanda Wadkins  
Jennifer Waite  
Lindsey Warfield  
Daniel Warren  
Christina Webber  
Jennifer Weimer  
Joshua Whalen  
Jean Wiatrowski  
Erick Wilczynski  
Garrett Willis  
Jason Willis  
Kimberly Woodard  
David Wright  
Melody Young  
Nancy Zakutansky  
Blake Zaragoza  
Daniel Zemlik



A grid of 24 black and white student portraits arranged in 4 rows and 6 columns. The students are of various ethnicities and are dressed in casual attire. The portraits are set against a light, textured background. The grid is as follows:  
Row 1: A female with long blonde hair, a female with dark hair, a male with short blonde hair, a female with short dark hair, a male with short dark hair, a female with long blonde hair, a male with short dark hair, a male with short dark hair.  
Row 2: A female with long blonde hair, a male with short dark hair, a female with long blonde hair, a male with short dark hair, a female with long dark hair, a female with short dark hair, a female with long blonde hair, a female with long blonde hair.  
Row 3: A female with short dark hair and glasses, a female with long dark hair, a male with short dark hair, a female with short dark hair, a male with short dark hair, a female with short dark hair, a male with short dark hair, a female with short dark hair.  
Row 4: A male with short dark hair, a female with long dark hair, a female with long dark hair, a female with long dark hair, a female with long dark hair, a female with short dark hair, a female with long dark hair, a female with long dark hair.





Jacob Boykin  
Paul Braden  
Kayla Brooks  
Joshua Brown  
Tiffany Brunner  
Michael Burke  
Adrian Bustos  
Christopher Camery

Brandon Campbell  
Jessica Carrasco  
Megan Cary  
Sarah Cates  
Amber Chaja  
Dominic Cherepko  
Casey Claxton  
Alisha Cletcher

April Clowers  
Adam Cody  
Cristen Coffey  
Stephanie Coffman  
Joseph Cole  
Erick Colunga  
Brent Cook  
Christopher Cook

Sarah Cooper  
Tiffany Cooper  
Nathan Cordova  
Nolan Corlett  
Anthony Costa  
Gabriel Covell  
Joelene Craig  
Jeremy Crandall

Cassandra Creech  
Michaelaen Creviston  
Alex Crist  
Cheryl Crowder  
Paul Cruse  
Gregory Curiel  
Michelle Cutrel  
Alan Daily

Terrence Danapas  
Allison Dault  
Buck Davich  
Jeremy Davies  
Ashley Davis  
Danyelle Davis  
Lindsey Davis  
Rebekah Davis

# THE ROAD TO PROM



It's time to bring out the  
prom. The road to  
prom is a long one, but  
it's worth it.

It's time to bring out the  
prom. The road to  
prom is a long one, but  
it's worth it.



It's time to bring out the  
prom. The road to  
prom is a long one, but  
it's worth it.



It's time to bring out the  
prom. The road to  
prom is a long one, but  
it's worth it.



Randall Dawkins  
Cory Dehnart  
Adriana Delreal  
Tasha Demaria  
Benjamin Destjean  
Stephan Devaney  
Cody Dexter  
Shane Dixon



Ryanne Doherty  
Stephen Domonkos  
Shauna Dougherty  
Cody Drees  
Ashlee Dura  
Bradley Dugger  
Lauren Dunning  
Felix Duron



Jessica Elkin  
Gerald Erickson  
Matthew Eriks  
Brittany Esposito  
Kristopher Evans  
Anna Fannin  
Amanda Feeney  
Sarah Felter



Alexandria Fernandez  
James Field  
Matthew Fifield  
Abby Fink  
James Flannery  
Thomas Foley  
Christen Frank  
Kylie Frank



At the fall homecoming pep rally, juniors should notice and notice voters watch on the activities go on. While not performing on the pep rally, the cheerleaders sit and watch on the team from performers and on the football team and the homecoming nominees enter the gymnasium.

In the fall comes to a close, junior, Trishella Carter, takes a moment to take in all of camp events after participating in her classes of tomorrow class. This group of astrophysics students take time out to do community service and help out in the surrounding areas.









Winter homecoming is an exciting time for many, especially the nominees for prince, princess, king, and queen. Here, two prince nominees, juniors Eric Davis and Jonnyl Dawkins, wait for the results as they wait to become the next winter homecoming prince for the 2004-2005 year.

Filled with their friends, junior Stephanie Gierke tries her best at anticipation of the outcome of the game. The game was more a disappointment for the juniors in terms of score, but their all was an excellent time at first, and they put in such a wonderful and fun-filled event.



## WHAT ADVICE DO you have FOR UNDERCLASSMEN?

"Don't watch Channel One. Use it to sleep or to do homework you didn't finish the night before."

ALYCIA LABOX, JUNIOR



"Do your work and don't be ridiculous by partying all the time because while that is fun now living in a cardboard box is not."

ASHLEY DAVIS, JUNIOR

"Take AP English with the Kolyuks! You'll get to spend three terms with the most amazing two ladies."

ALEXANDRA STEWART, JUNIOR



Kyle Jacobs  
Troy Janik  
Alicia Jarosak  
Brenten Jenks  
Veronica Jimenez  
Robin Johnson  
Nicole Jones  
Shannon Jones



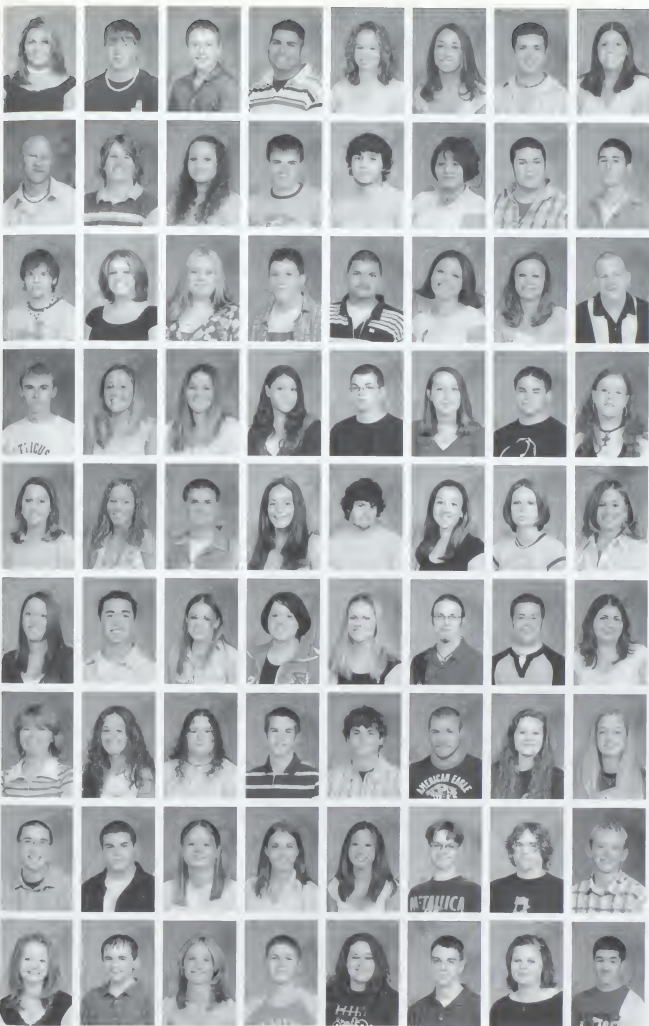
Gordana Jovanoski  
Timothy Juchinski  
Whitney Taylore Keeling  
Jessica Keene  
Nathan Kellams  
Amber Kemp  
Benjamin Kerezman  
Sarah Kirincic



Sheri Kizkan  
Nicole Klimczyk  
Megan Knudsen  
Natalie Kovachevich  
Nickolas Kozik  
Kristofer Kromke  
Christopher Labno  
Alycia Laboy







Colette Langhauer  
 Ronald Lapine  
 Daniel Lasky  
 Raul Leal  
 Kristen Lee  
 Danielle Leimbach  
 Donald Lentz  
 Camille Lewandowski

Nathan Lewis  
 Robert Liesch  
 Jessica Lombardo  
 Christopher Longo  
 Aaron Lopez  
 Christina Lopez  
 Andres Magana  
 Mark Magana

Thomas Marion  
 Viera Marjanov  
 Victoria Marsh  
 Jeremiah Martin  
 Christopher Martinez  
 Claudia Martinez  
 Briyani Massom  
 Chance Matthews

Raymond Mauch  
 Autumn McCormick  
 Brittany McCready  
 Kayla McCurdy  
 Jeremy McDonald  
 Hannah McKee  
 Thattus McMurray  
 Victoria Meanovich

Allyssa Medanich  
 Samantha Meints  
 Ross Mencliewicz  
 Kristin Mendez  
 Anthony Mendizabal  
 Alicia Mendoza  
 Stephanie Merket  
 Jessica Metz

Sara Mikenas  
 Jonathan Miller  
 Jessica Mitchell  
 Katie Moehl  
 Nikita Momola  
 David Montgomery  
 Joseph Morales  
 Yolanda Morin

Jennifer Mose  
 Natalie Moyado  
 April Mullins  
 Brendan Mulroe  
 Christopher Murray  
 David Murray  
 Sara Mustafa  
 Kristen Myers

Matthew Myers  
 Manuel Nardini  
 Jacklyn Neace  
 Nicole Nelson  
 Tuong Nguyen VI  
 Christopher Nichols  
 Ryan Nichols  
 Bryan Norkus

Ashley Norman  
 Jordan Oakes  
 Sara Olson  
 Richard O' Reilly  
 Mande Paniaguas  
 Joseph Pankiewicz  
 Crystal Passananti  
 Eric Patrick



Justin Pedro  
Rachel Pekar  
Svetlana Pekovic  
Anthony Pennington  
Felicia Penrose  
Jose Perez  
Krista Perry  
William Peterson



Ryke Pfeiffer  
Christopher Phillips  
Rami Piers  
Michelle Plotke  
Bryan Priest  
Emily Pruim  
Ashley Pullen  
Matthew Purcell



Raymond Purdy  
Crystal Raber  
Rachael Ramirez  
Drew Ramsey  
Mandi Rance  
Mallory Rappatta  
Timothy Ray  
Kimberly Redden



Rachel Reed  
Andrew Repay  
Nathan Reynolds  
Erik Rhein  
Brittany Rigoni  
Toni Riley  
Jeffrey Robb  
Alicia Robinson



Kristopher Robinson  
Crystal Rodriguez  
Megan Rodriguez  
Timothy Rodriguez  
Daniel Rogers  
Courtney Rogers-Sult  
Matthew Rose  
April Rousseau



# Was Your JUNIOR Year How You expected it to Be?



"Of course junior year was more than I expected because I am so low that if I fall, I won't even notice."

David Montgomery, Junior



"I think it was better than I expected, especially since I have been involved in the Junior Class Club."

Ashley Urbanek, Junior



"Yes, it was because it has been the most educational and fun-filled year yet!"

Nicole Nelson, Junior

"No, I honestly thought it would be more challenging because of the expectations passed on to me from the seniors."

Rachel Kenick, Junior



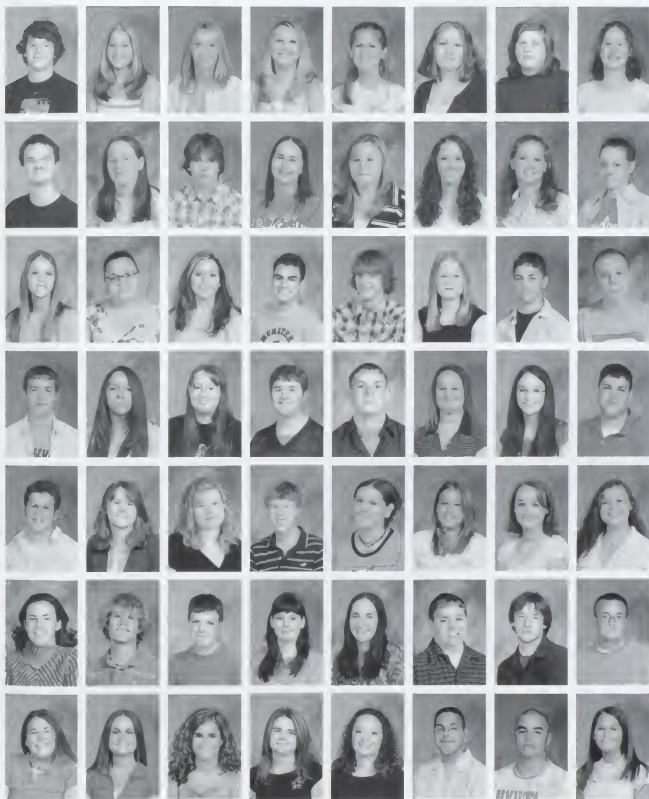
"At the singing musical, 'Grease', Jason Carter, junior, sang 'Smile' as fellow junior Joseph Morales sang with him. Both seniors and juniors who participated in numerous musicals together during their high school careers, including last year's 'Grease'."







Just how a moment for many friends who do not see each other very often to catch up on the exciting moments in their lives. Here, a group of junior girls talk and laugh as they eat and recall the various events of the past week's events.



Eric Ruiz  
Lindsey Russ  
Lauren Ruzga  
Amanda Sable  
Ashley Sandlin  
Kristie Sandoval  
Jeffrey Santler  
Sarah Scharpf

Benjamin Schiller  
Lisa Schima  
James Schneider  
Trina Schneider  
Amanda Scholz  
Kelly Schoon  
Colleen Scott  
John Searer

Brooke Sechrest  
Nicole Seefeldt  
Michele Serrano  
John Serratto  
Jamie Shay  
Michelle Shearer  
Aaron Sheshar  
Terry Shepherd

Joshua Shippin  
Katerina Sibakoska  
Rosalinda Singer  
Michael Sinkus  
Mitch Slowik  
Jennifer Smith  
Jennifer Smith  
Nathan Smith

Nathaniel Sosa  
Wendy Spacek  
Jennifer Spence  
Joshua Stanley  
Alisha Stark  
Stephanie Starr  
Amanda Stasik  
Alexandra Stewart

Christina Stewart  
Andrew Stills  
William Stoll  
Randi Stone  
Alexis Strbac  
Kenneth Sullivan  
Alexander Supp  
Michael Suthers

Kaitlyn Talley  
Samantha Tampier  
Stephanie Tanis  
Brandy Targgart  
Leah Taylor  
Eric Tellez  
Eric Tharp  
Megan Tiernan





At a FOCJA meeting, seniors, Kiana Smith and Brittany Segura have a snack composed of cookies. The FOCJA meets every two weeks and participates in many activities to learn about nutrition. This organization has chosen to allow students to give meals to help in their community.

Balboa Acoustic guitar club begins, junior, Josh Decker, takes time to tune his guitar to perfection. Hard work and determination are what it takes to become an experienced and skilled guitarist. The club meets once a week to rehearse and collaborate guitar music.



## How do you feel knowing you are closer to graduating?



"Graduation is both exciting and scary. I can't wait until college, but I'm nervous about leaving my friends and everything that is familiar."

Samantha Tampier, junior



"I am extremely happy because I know that I won't have to get up and come here any more at six something in the morning."

Robert Liesch, junior

Joseph Tinsley  
Alexander Tokarski  
Robert Tomas  
David Tomaszewski  
Francisco Torres  
Brock Townsend  
Robert Troup  
Jordan Tuthill



Ashley Urbanek  
Darren Urquidi  
Gabriel Valtierra  
Leticia Vazquez  
Adam Velez  
Tyler Vincent  
Nicholas Walla  
Adam Walters



Mark Weber  
Kimberly Weiland  
Nicole Weldon  
Brandon Welshan  
Megan Wenger  
Shauna Wetmore  
Lisa Whitworth  
Quentin Wilborn



Katie Wilk  
Jeffrey Wilken  
Scott Willett  
Brittany Williams  
Jessica Williams  
Norman Williams  
Sarah Williams  
Zackery Williams



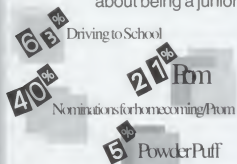




As seniors Alexandra Stewart and Sara Whitaker perform the role play, students they are discussing instantly on their dialogue. The play was performed on three consecutive nights in November and all actors performed to the best of their ability each and every night.

While at a multi-culture presentation - Sophomore Nadiyah Echols and junior Vanessa Cortal and Jessica Cardoso dance. The evening presentation was sponsored by the multi-cultural club so the students could experience the ways of a different culture.

What was the best part about being a junior?

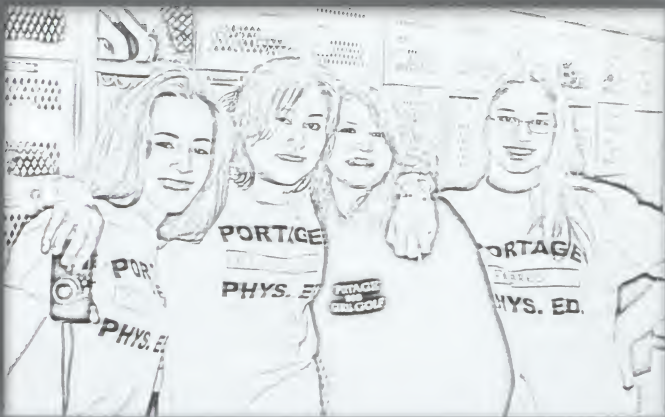


50 juniors surveyed



Brandon Wilson  
James Wring  
Nicole Yates  
Michael York  
Olivia Zamarron  
Zachary Zygowicz





## SOPHOMORE - A - SKETCH

CLASS OF 2007

Christopher Abram  
Garrett Abromitis  
Katlin Alvey  
Andrea Amstein  
Danyelle Andrews  
Audrey Arnold  
Victoria Arwood  
Samantha Austin



Nicole Ayala  
Natalia Baccarelli  
Jordan Bailey  
Ross Bailey  
Stephen Bain  
Holly Banic  
Herbie Barker  
Heather Barlow



Robert Barnas  
Jessica Barrett  
Ashley Bariolac  
Meghan Bauer  
Nathan Beal  
Kylie Beaudreau  
Jessica Bedford  
Britney Beers



Amy Bell  
Michael Benjamin  
Casey Bergner  
Britnee Berman  
Brooks Bernes  
Dino Bernardi  
Noah Berquist  
Trisha Berryman







Erica Bogges  
Amanda Boldin  
Rachael Bolen  
Sarah Bool  
Tammi Bordelon  
Robert Borowski  
Aimee Bottorff  
Catlyn Boucher



Melissa Bowen  
Tara Bowen  
Brian Bowles  
Thomas Boyer  
Amanda Bridges  
Betsy Brown  
Steven Brown  
Casey Bryan



Jeanne Brys  
Kelsey Burr  
Magen Burriss  
Andrew Bustos  
Brandon Butera  
Natalie Butler  
Cassandra Cain  
Theresa Calaug



Tiffany Calaug  
Sarah Cannon  
Danielle Carithers  
Jusline Carlotta  
Ashley Carns  
Shannon Carroll  
Corrine Castillo  
Michelle Castrejon



Javier Chabes  
Britni Chambers  
Scott Cherry  
Samantha Childers  
Kelly Christman  
Rachel Christman  
Kari Cieszkiewicz  
Nicole Clark



Andrew Coban  
Franklin Cole  
Sophia Coleman  
Samantha Colon  
Krista Conley  
Timothy Cook  
Alyson Cox  
Jeremiah Cox



Kristen Cox  
Sarah Craig  
Jason Creech  
Robert Creech  
Joseph Cruz  
Teagan Daily  
Steven Damon  
Jessica Davidson



Tiffany Davies  
Adam Davis  
Jordan Davis  
Lyndsey Deavers  
Keira Degener  
Jennifer Delacruz  
Brittany Delurco  
Cassandra Dessauer



Jessie Dexter  
Kristan Deyoung  
Derek Diehl  
Jessica Dienes  
Michael Disney  
Kyle Doan  
Anthony Donohue  
Monique Duran



Amanda Earley  
Dora Easter  
Ryan Edwards  
Kaitlin Ellis  
Trent Ellis  
Steven Erwin  
Chyanne Evans  
Jacklyn Evans



Ryan Fagan  
Ryan Fairchild  
Lauren Falk  
Andrew Farmer  
Aaron Fedor  
Bradley Feehan  
Megan Ferguson  
Julie Fields



Mark Fischer  
Aaron Ford  
William Fortenberry  
Jeanette Frahm  
Daniel Franz  
Christopher Frechette  
Nicholas Friday  
Andrea Fuentes



Alyssa Fultz  
Michael Gallion  
Megan Gannon  
David Garcia  
Michael Garibay  
Megan Garner  
Steven Gazibara  
Barry Geber



Lindsay Gerber  
Michelle Gibson  
Amy Gifford  
Brendan Gill  
James Gilmer  
Edward Giordano  
Steven Goheen  
Brittany Gonzales



Sammie Gonzalez  
Brett Gorden  
Mallory Gore  
Christen Gottschlich  
Kenton Grashel  
Stephanie Greer  
Melanie Griffin  
Samantha Griffith



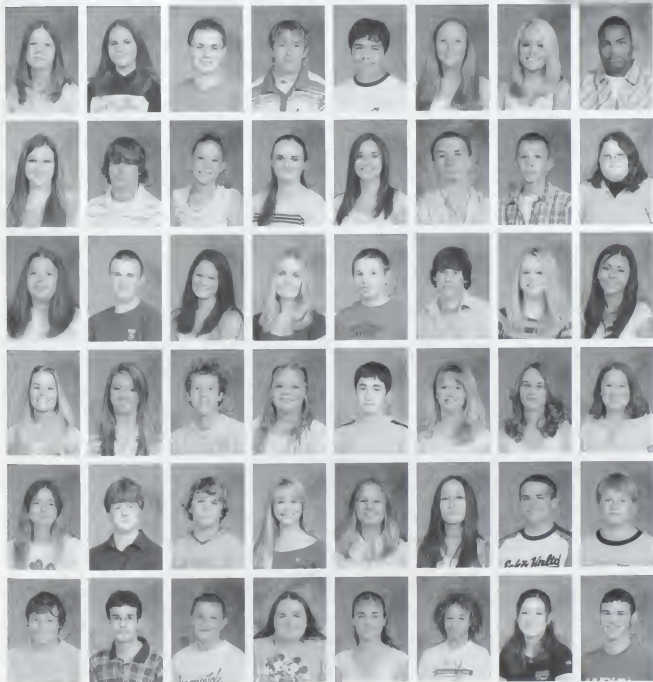
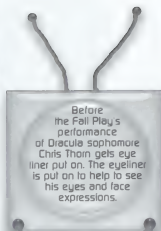
### A lot of 80s shows and characteristics of the 80s are coming back are you into the 80s comeback

"I love the 80's comeback. I am very much into it. It was a great decade and my parents grew up in it. I would love to experience the 80's. I mean I was born in 1988 so I was too young then to really remember anything about it," said Britney Ayers.

Truely like the comeback of like leg warmers and chunky jewelry, but I don't think that our decade is copying the 80's. We have our own decade that we are combining with other decades like the 80's with this one," said Shannon Cairou.







Amber Grodetz  
Bianca Guajardo  
Jonathan Guerrero  
Roger Gurski  
David Gutierrez  
Meagan Gutierrez  
Kathleen Hargarten  
Anthony Harris

Brittany Harris  
Brandon Hatfield  
Taylor Helmick  
Felicia Hendricks  
Anna Henry  
Justin Hertl  
Kyle Hess  
Elizabeth Hill

Tiffany Hines  
Travis Hoak  
Kateland Hohnacki  
Lauren Hokenson  
Richard Holland  
Bradley Homan  
Ashley Huizar  
Jacqueline Huizar

Lindsay Imel  
Dusti Imeson  
Kevin Isaac  
Megan Jacobs  
Eric Jagiela  
Cassandra Janis  
Amber Jarnecke  
Megan Jercha

Ashley Jett  
Adam Johnson  
Matthew Johnson  
Kristine Jones  
Meagan Jordan  
Mirjana Jovanovic  
Edwin Joyce  
Steven Juszcak

James Kalberer  
Andrew Kaurich  
David Kelley  
Elizabeth Kelly  
Samantha Kenealy  
Sean Kennedy  
Amanda Klingner  
Michael Kobe



Brittney Koebeck  
Heather Koller  
Austin Konchar  
Lauren Konyk  
Samantha Kostelnik  
Derek Kozik  
Amanda Krga  
Samantha Labno



Luke Ladra  
Lindsay Lambert  
Kyle Lamping  
Valerie Lane  
Tiffany Larson  
Brittany Lavery  
Amanda Lee  
Steven Lentz



Stacy Levack  
Jessica Lewis  
Sarah Lewis  
Hannah Lindstrom  
Casey Lipe  
Joseph Loewie  
Lawrence Long  
David Longfellow



Christina Longstreet  
Erika Lopez  
Jonathan Lopez  
Jacob Lowe  
Amanda Luna  
Joshua Maddack  
Johnathan Mahaffey  
Kayla Maldonado



Dawn Mardis  
Robert Markus  
Cecelia Martinez  
Raphael Martinez  
Jeremy Marton  
Dyrel Matvia  
Maria Mausser  
Joe Mayfield



## Top 10 Favorite 80s Movies

1. Breakfast Club
2. Footloose
3. Dazed and Confused
4. Pretty in Pink
5. 16 Candles
6. Die Hard
7. Flashdance
8. Ferris Buller's Day Off
9. Weird Science
10. Look Who's Talking

At lunch time  
Ken Grana decides  
whether or not to drink  
his milk. In the end he  
realizes it's already  
gone.





## 80s events

1. Reagan was elected
2. Mt. Saint Helen erupts
3. Pac Man seizes the nation
4. MTV is launched
5. NASA releases 1<sup>st</sup> space shuttle
6. Michael Jackson-Thriller
7. Ozzy bites head off of a bat
8. Cds were released for the 1<sup>st</sup> time
9. Black and Hispanic Barbie's were introduced
10. Ghandi assassinated
11. Discovery of AIDS
12. New coke introduced
13. 1<sup>st</sup> Madonna tour
14. Fall of the Berlin Wall



## 80s games

1. Trivia pursuit
2. Hackey Sack
3. Uno
4. Space invaders
5. Pac Man
6. Frogger
7. Telris
8. Arcades
9. Nintendo 64
10. Donkey Kong

At an important game, sophomore Kevin Roman stands still to listen to the referee. The referee is deciding whether or not their team will be called on a foul.



Joshua McCarley  
Kyle McCormack  
Alicia McMurray  
Kelly McNear  
Michael McNiskin  
Justin McNorton  
Daniel Melican  
Brandy Mergl

Lorena Merifield  
Daniel Meyer  
Tejay Mihal  
Ryan Mueller  
Joseph Miller  
Donald Mills  
Christina Mischanko  
Sara Mischke

Zachary Montez  
Nastasia Monzon  
Michael Moore  
Enrique Moran  
Megan Moran  
Michael Morris  
Brittany Morrison  
Christopher Moss

Christopher Moss  
Rubiya Multani  
Sukhmani Multani  
Max Mulvihill  
Kassandra Mulzon  
Alexander Munoz  
Reece Mussman  
Jasmine Nadolski

Matthew Nadolski  
Christina Nasiatka  
Samantha Neary  
Tera Nelson  
Christopher Nevil  
Kalan Nigh  
Kenneth Nolan  
Grant Norris



# 80s slang

1. like
2. awesome
3. chill pill
4. don't have a cow
5. dude
6. gag me with a spoon
7. freak me out
8. gnarly
9. no duh
10. omigod
11. psych
12. stellar

In class,  
sophomores Tiffany  
Davies and Jonathon  
Guerreiro listen intently.  
They find that the  
teacher is very  
interesting and  
knowledgeable.



Michael Oprisko  
Melissa Overmyer  
Jeffrey Owens  
Amanda O'Brien  
Rachel Paczolt  
Joseph Park  
Breanna Patillo  
Avery Pearman



Tommy Peeler  
Colette Pennington  
Daniel Perez  
Kiely Perkins  
Carolyn Peters  
Justin Pezel  
Brandon Phillips  
Stephanie Phipps



Jurgen Pierce  
Holli Piers  
Danielle Pieschala  
Aubrie Piro  
Lauren Pirovski  
Alexandra Prassas  
Ashley Privett  
Bryan Radakovich



Eric Raman  
Kevin Raman  
Pedro Ramos  
Mark Rapo  
Nicholas Rasco  
Vincent Razo  
Brittney Reges  
Brian Reynolds



Kelsey Richards  
Danielle Richardson  
Heidi Richie  
Larry Riffett  
Rebecca Riggle  
Dalton Rinehart  
Paul Rio  
Julia Rios







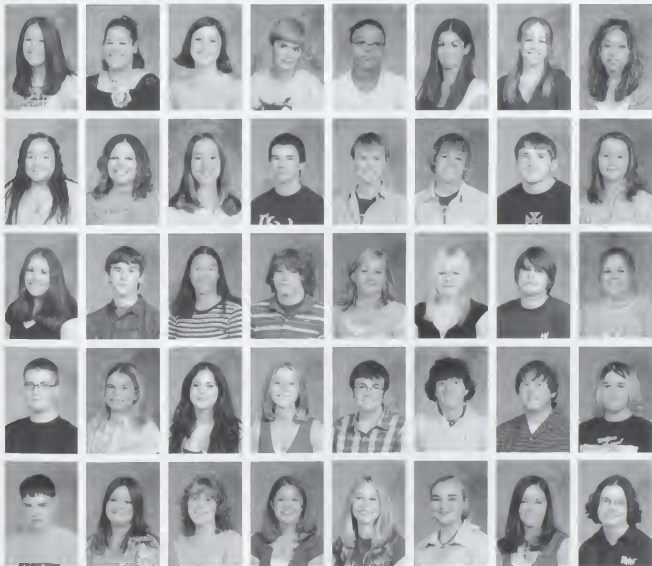
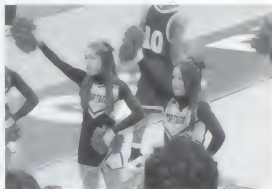
Study Hall  
is always a good  
time to cram for certain  
tests. Amy Gifford has  
realized this and taken it  
upon herself to be ready  
for her next class.

Basketball  
games are very  
important and  
sophomore cheerleaders  
Blanca Angarola and  
Stephanie Phipps know  
this. Cheering for their  
school makes them  
very happy.



### Who is your Favorite Teacher

"My favorite teacher has to be Mrs. Martin-Smith. She always made me feel better with humor, but I would also have to say that Mr. Wolfman is my second. I love his Russian accent and circus moves. He also taught me how to balance a meter stick on my foot." Said Ashley Carns.



Tony Rios  
Alicia Rivera  
Emily Robbins  
Matthew Robbins  
Latrice Robinson  
Jessica Rocha  
Melinda Rodgers  
Justine Rodriguez

Jasmine Rodriguez  
Beth Rosas  
Stephanie Rosenbaum  
Tyler Rosenbaum  
Jeremy Rossi  
Keith Roy  
James Rudziewicz  
Melissa Russell

Catherine Rybecki  
Jack Salicete  
Krystle Sanchez  
Richard Sandage  
Amber Sanders  
Sarah Sanders  
Walter Sarnowski  
Sabrina Scegiel

Kevin Schick  
Kate Schreiber  
Krista Schultz  
Amanda Sedoris  
Anthony Seigh  
Jiovani Serrano  
Benjamin Shadley  
Kevin Shelton

Brian Shreve  
Jessica Sievers  
Amber Sims  
Theresa Singh  
Jessica Siple  
Jessica Skalka  
Victoria Skubish  
Erik Slone





Kyle Slusher  
Hannah Smith  
Leighan Smith  
Michael Sobierajski  
Allegra Solis  
Amanda Somers  
Danielle Sommers  
Ashley Sosa



Eric Speer  
Tyler Spoonstra  
Katelyn Stanfield  
Alexander Stanley  
Kristin Stanley  
Jason Stearns  
Nathaniel Stearns  
William Andrew Stearns



Audrey Stone  
Diamond Stringer  
Cody Suggs  
Kristen Sullins  
Thomas Sullivan  
Daniel Talbot  
Cody Thiel  
Robert Thomason



Vickie Thomason  
Ricky Thompson  
Sheila Thompson  
Christopher Thorn  
Michael Todosijevic  
Sean Toomey  
Jaclyn Tratar  
Peter Trinidad



Erik Twilla  
Kayla Tylka  
Natalie Vahary  
Kelsi Van Wormer  
Charles Vanover  
Lawrence Vaughan  
Andrew Veatch  
David Vivian



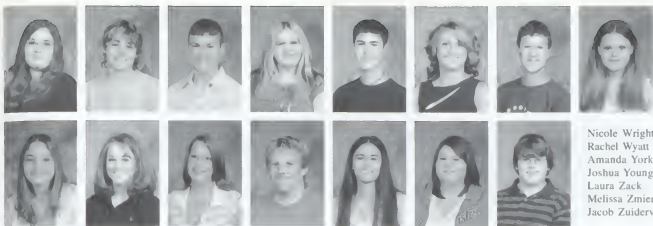
Kyle Vottero  
Ryan Vottero  
Felicia Vucko  
Theresa Vulpitta  
James Webb  
Leonora Whitting  
Ashleigh Whitten  
Zachary Willford



## 80s Fads

1. arcades
2. baby on board stickers
3. bonnie bell make-up
4. cell phones
5. Michael Jackson
6. neon nail polish
7. Polaroid cameras
8. records and 8-tapes
9. Top Gun mania
10. WWF





Nichole Williams  
Owen Williams  
Cortie Wilson  
Karissa Wilson  
Nathaniel Wise  
Ashley Wood  
Mack Wozniak  
Lauren Wright

Nicole Wright  
Rachel Wyatt  
Amanda York  
Joshua Young  
Laura Zack  
Melissa Zmierski  
Jacob Zuidervliet



At lunch time, sophomore John Mahaffey and friends eat their lunches. This is the time most students enjoy the most.

## Our favorite teachers

(polled by 5 sophomore classes)

- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Mr. Bodnar  | 6. Mr. Moody         |
| 2. Ms. Peda    | 7. Mrs. Slamkowski   |
| 3. Mr. Hall    | 8. Mrs. Martin-Smith |
| 4. Mr. Wolfman | 9. Mr. Merrill       |
| 5. Mr. Tharp   | 10. Mr. Zarلمان      |



**Do you think that music now is like the music in the 80s**

"I think some bands like The Darkness and Bowling for Soup are knock offs of certain 80's bands," said Karissa Wilson.

**How much do you think we have changed since the 80s**

"Since the 80's we have moved on in the way people think, we also have a lot of new music and technology," said Eddie Joyce.





# FRESHMAN

## MADE IN EIGHTY-NINE

Leah Adams  
Rita Ahlborn  
Thomas Albee  
Courtney Alexander  
Fernando Alvarez  
Christopher Amore  
Peter Andersen  
Darrell Anderson



Edward Arteaga  
Rhonda Ashford  
Daniel Avina  
Shauna Ball  
Zachary Barker  
Brittney Barnett  
Amanda Barrett  
Ivan Bateman



Amanda Bates  
Courtney Beach  
Bracy Bean  
Mara Bearss  
Loudan Becker  
Carol Belleville  
Jasmine Belmont  
Robert Bennett



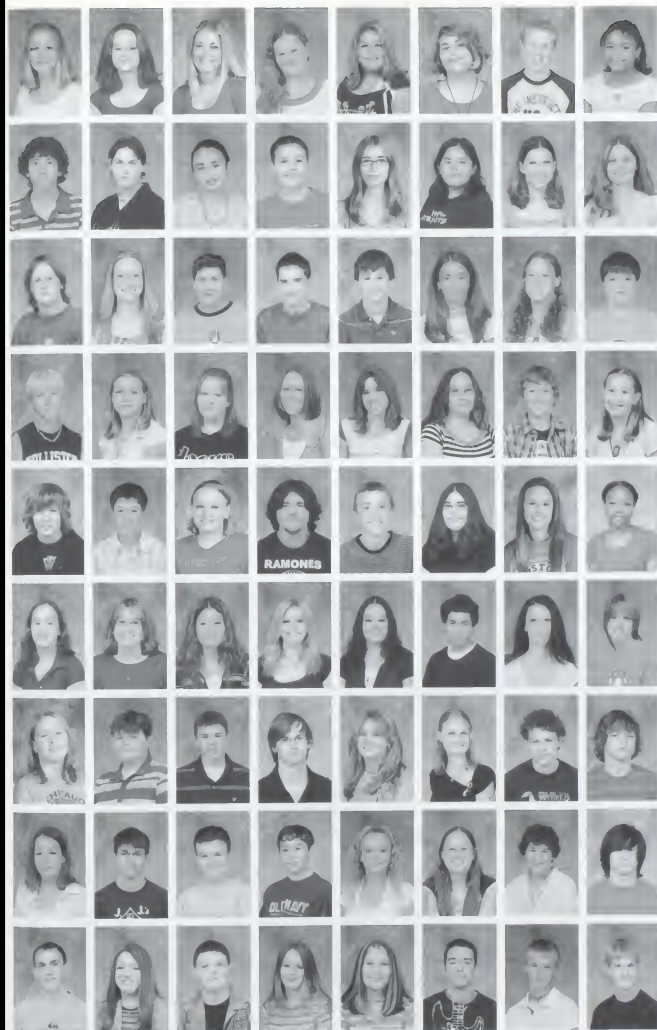
Brian Bevil  
Carrie Biggs  
Kyle Blake  
Jeremy Blake  
Amy Blakely  
Samuel Bloom  
Richelle Bolinger  
Erica Bonia



Stephanie Bowman  
Megan Braden  
Tac Braner  
Deanna Brantley  
Emily Brennan  
Elizabeth Brown  
Michael Brutout  
Joshua Bryant







Lindsay Burbee  
Tonya Butala  
Brittany Buzea  
Brandi Cain  
Angelica Camacho  
Jennifer Campbell  
Daniel Capron  
Carolina Carattini

Nicholas Cardenas  
Graham Cardwell  
Andreanna Carnell  
John Carpenter  
Jessica Carson  
Victoria Chavez  
Steffane Christian  
Autumn Clarida

Stephen Clark  
Kristin Clem  
Logan Cloyd  
Anthony Coccaro  
Douglas Coffman  
Grace Coleman  
Allie Collins  
Kevin Compass

Darren Conley  
Andrea Conroy  
Natalie Coats  
Brianna Coppinger  
Jessica Cox  
Rachel Crase  
Chad Crile  
Kathryn Crook

Kyle Croust  
Christopher Crowder  
Beth Croy  
Jacob Crozier  
Jeffrey Cunningham  
Kathleen Curiel  
Lauren Curran  
Morgan Currin

Amy Czupryn  
Tiffany Davies  
Angela Dees  
Anna Defflorio  
Kristina Deleon  
Daniel Delgado  
Amy Delturco  
Edward Derr

Paige Devore  
Timothy Diamond  
William Doll  
Nicholas Dove  
Meghan Doyle  
Mary Dreckman  
Logan Drees  
Terry Driver

Kayla Drozd  
Robert Drury  
Jeffery Dubach  
Anthony Duron  
Jennifer Duxard  
Jessica Echterling  
Christopher Edmaiston  
Joseph Efantis

Shawn Ehlers  
Adair Engel  
Jakob Engel  
Madison Engel  
Megan Erway  
Andrew Escabi  
Kenneth Evans  
Kyle Evans



# EIGHTH GRADE

After the bell rings for lunch, the freshmen begin their trek toward the cafeteria. Everyday, the finest foods are prepared to nourish these growing teens.

# EIGHTH GRADE

After finishing their lunch, a group of freshmen stand in the cafeteria chatting. Even though most freshmen don't like the lunch in the West building, the wholesome association of their peers makes it all worthwhile.



Stephanie Evans  
Brittany Evola  
Stephanie Farmer  
Samuel Fazekas  
Elizabeth Feliciano  
Brittany Felker  
Todd Ferris  
Bruce Fink



Taylor Fleming  
Jennifer Fletcher  
Jeremy Flick  
Joshua Flick  
Benjamin Flohr  
Michelle Floyd  
Brittany Foley  
Andrew Foster



Rachell Franklin  
Tina Franklin  
Dustin Franz  
Amanda Frasure  
Renee Frechette  
Amie Fuller  
Leslie Fuller  
Corey Gaines



Tyler Games  
Brigitte Gandy  
Nathan Garcia  
Isidoro Garibaldi  
Zachary Garner  
Breanna Garza  
Melissa Garza  
Stephanie Gerbick



Jonathan Geske  
Amanda Gettig  
Elizabeth Girouard  
Madelyn Glass  
Benjamin Gobin  
Dakota Gobin  
Matthew Golarz  
Andrew Golden



James Gore  
Eric Gossett  
Tayler Grashel  
Garrett Graves  
Adam Greer  
Wendy Grinder  
Emily Guerra  
Matthew Guglielmetti





Melissa Hale  
Taylor Halko  
Ashlee Hall  
Mariah Hamang  
Sarah Hamang  
Joseph Hammond  
Michael Hanlon  
Samuel Harrison

James Harris  
Brittnee Harshman  
Kaylyn Hart  
Brian Hatten  
Jessica Hayward  
Michael Hazy  
Dennis Healy  
Rachel Heckman

Lindsay Hejna  
Joseph Hemry  
Christine Hernandez  
Amber Herrera  
Jillian Herrman  
Erick Hester  
Maria Hicks  
John Hill

Austin Hilley  
Jessica Houdrea  
Samantha Hoak  
Lauren Hodges  
Meredith Hodges  
David Holek  
Jeremy Holloway  
Lauren Hopper

Treona Hunter  
Alexander Hutchins  
Benjamin Hutchins  
Jennifer Hyde  
Nathan Ingram  
Franklin Ivey  
Leah Jackson  
Christina Jacobs

## OPINION OF PHS THIS YEAR

WHAT IS YOUR

SEARLES, 9

"I love it! It's nice to be in a big school with a large selection of class choices. The school actually has good sports teams and the teachers (for the most part) are nice."

AMANDA

"Portage High works so fast that if someone like me were to come in the middle of the year they could get most credits back. I like how we work as if it is two years in one."

HOLLY

PERCIFIED, 9



MADE IN

EIGHTH NINE

While playing an exciting game of volleyball in freshman P.E., freshman Lauren Hodges stops to pose for the camera. She also played on the JV soccer team this year.

MADE IN

EIGHTH NINE

His classmates listen intently as freshman Peter Lofland gives a Powerpoint presentation during Mrs. Burke's freshman English class. Many students use Powerpoint as a visual aid.





# EIGHTH GRADE

As part of the cheerleading squad, freshman Stephanie Bowman holds a letter at a basketball game. Cheerleaders are considered to be a great source of school spirit and pride.



Stephanie Jahoda  
Ashleigh Janiga  
Melinda Jarnecke  
Brittany Johnson  
Natalie Johnson  
Vance Johnston  
David Jolly  
Biljana Jovanovic



Tate Judy  
Jennifer Kalch  
Nicholas Kaminski  
Trevor Karagias  
Kaitlin Karagory  
Jaimie Kasper  
Kevin Katona  
Matthew Kawiecki



Courtney Kearby  
Brandon Kestle  
Katina Kidd  
Torie Klimaszewski  
Craig Knickerbocker  
Kristen Knuth  
Rebecca Kobe  
Brittany Komenda



Lauren Komenda  
Jayne Korpak  
Kara Kostelnik  
James Kovacs  
Aaron Krabbenhoft  
Melissa Kranick  
Nicole Krooswyk  
Kevin Krueger



Jeffrey Krug  
Timothy Laskovich  
Brian Laster  
Sarah Laux  
Olivia Leggett  
Amanda Leimbach  
Daniel Lenzo  
John Lesniewski



Carmyn Leveritt  
Benjamin Levin  
Brett Lewis  
Lindsay Ling  
Robert Little  
Abigail Llerena  
Peter Lofland  
Joseph Lonergan



Brittany Lozanovski  
Kim Lunn  
Thomas Lynch  
Ashley Madsen  
Kamran Malik  
Samantha Maples  
Sarah Marek  
Steven Marjanov







Joshua Martin  
Joel Martinez  
Stacey Martinez  
Dallas Masch  
Thomas Mathis  
Alyssa Mayerik  
Kristen McCoy  
Kathryn McCready

Steven McLeod  
Amanda Meczyssine  
Raymond Meehan  
Valerie Mihal  
Diamond Miller  
Kelly Miller  
Angela Mills  
Eli Mills

Amanda Mirabella  
Melinda Misch  
Samantha Mischankov  
Jessica Moore  
Ilia Morales  
Michael Morales  
Colleen Moran  
Emily Morris

Ryan Morris  
Amy Muhammad  
Michael Murray  
Jeremy Myers  
Korissa Neace  
Krista Nebel  
Katie Nestorovich  
Cassandra Newlin

Benjamin Newton  
Tiffany Nichols  
Joshua Novak  
Kari Nugent  
Joelle Oakes  
Robbie Onofrey  
Alexander Oprisko  
Sara Ortiz

Lindsay Owens  
Michelle O' Dor  
Katie O'brien  
Andrew O'reilly  
Jacquelyn Pagan  
Nathaniel Pall  
Kayla Patton  
Philip Paulson



# **EIGHTNINE**

**E**After pushing himself to finish the race in good standing, freshman Hyles collapses on the field in exhaustion. He has been running since his sixth grade year.

# **EIGHTNINE**

**T**his year was the first year that the freshman class took the 9850 test. Here, math students in Mr. Gmenyak's class attempt at doing a few problems that they may find on the test.



William Pearman  
Arielle Pennington  
Holly Percifield  
Maria Perez  
Zachary Perry  
Clinton Peters  
Alexis Petrak  
Carl Petroff



Andrew Piasiecki  
Deandre Pierce  
Matthew Pilipovich  
Pierre Pirle  
Christina Posey  
Carly Posiadlik  
Lauren Powers  
Shane Prance



Andrew Price  
Rachael Price  
Paul Prickett  
Alex Proper  
Amanda Pruim  
Danielle Prusynski  
Samantha Radakovich  
Alicia Rader



Elizabeth Ramirez  
Megan Rawdon  
Kyle Redlark  
Ashley Reeves  
Cynthia Reyes  
Vanessa Reyes  
Cody Richart  
Ryan Richmond



Nicholas Rigoni  
Kurtis Robinson  
Cecilia Rodriguez  
Selestina Rodriguez  
Robert Rogers  
Luana Rojano  
Ryan Ropp  
Tera Ross



Sarah Rosser  
Jamie Rotarius  
Brittnay Ruszkowski  
Arthur Salsstrom  
Ashley Sakes  
Samantha Salmi  
Lisa Samplawski  
Jacob Sandage



Ashley Sanders  
Timothy Sandrey  
Joselyn Santos  
Joshua Santos  
Katie Sasser  
Amanda Sateanek  
Natalya Saylor  
Craig Scharf



David Scheeringa  
Anthony Schuch  
Eric Schuler  
Lauren Scott  
Jessica Sedoris  
Tasha Sever  
Lindsay Shay  
Jacqueline Sheets



Joseph Sischo  
Rachel Sklarz  
Nikolas Skubish  
Brent Slawnikowski  
Ashley Sliger  
James Smith  
Shana Smith  
Stephen Smolinski







Hannah Snyder  
Ryan Specht  
Timothy Standerski  
Anna Stanley  
Brittany Stanton  
Brian Stasik  
Nataasha Stearns  
Danielle Steele

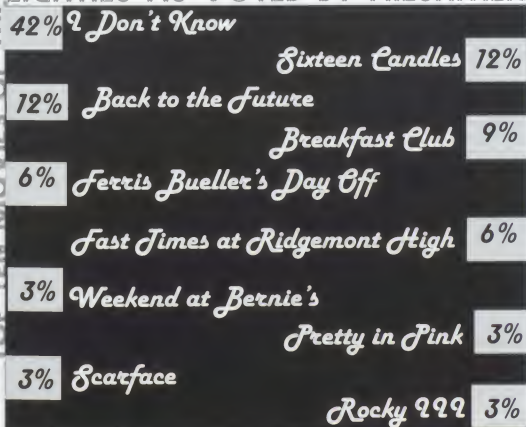
Jami Steighner  
Richard Stevens  
Corey Studham  
Stacey Stulley  
Julie Sulls  
Tara Stockstill  
Zachary Stoehr  
Michele Stowers

Erin Strang  
Amanda Sulski  
Craig Summers  
Ronald Sutton  
Rick Swain  
Laura Swanson  
Nicole Sykora  
Jessie Tankersley

Michael Tanses  
Brittany Tapper  
Ariana Taylor  
Allyssa Terkowitz  
Ashley Testa  
Kayla Thomas  
Katie Thomason  
Timothy Thompson

Steven Thorne  
Anita Thornton  
Brian Thornton  
Melody Tilford  
Amber Toigo  
Emily Tolliver  
Thomas Torres  
John Trathen

## EIGHTIES AS VOTED BY FRESHMEN





**EIGHTH NINE**  
*Whilst in a mounting position, the Freshman cheerleaders pose and smile for the crowd. The girls performed at every varsity basketball game.*



**EIGHTH NINE**  
*After coming back from lunch, freshman Jeffrey Cunningham turns to his assignment. Winding down from the exciting lunch period continues to be a challenge for students.*

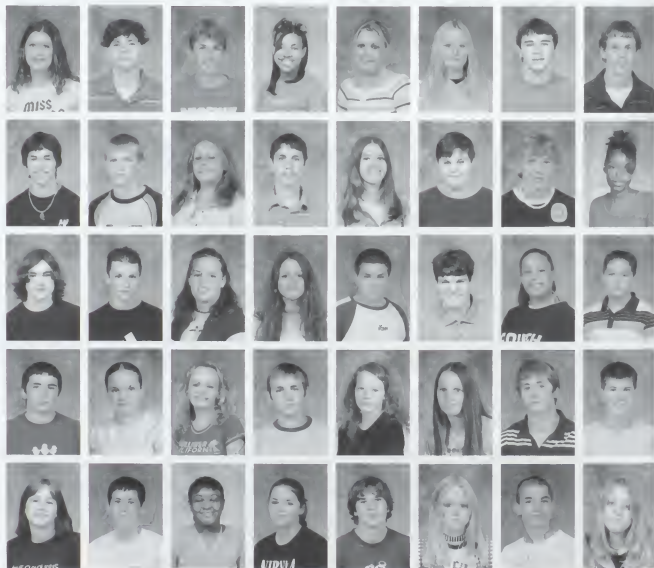
Meredith Trobaugh  
 Christopher Troup  
 Corey Tulacz  
 Brandi Turner  
 Katlyn Udchitz  
 Jody Ufan  
 Aaron Van Wormer  
 Nicholas Vanni

Jaime Vasquez  
 Julian Vazquez  
 Krystal Vivian  
 Kevin Waite  
 Rachelle Walker  
 Randy Walker  
 Matthew Walters  
 China Walton

Joshua Weldon  
 Dustin Westphal  
 Alexandra Whelan  
 Ashton Whitley  
 Eric Wilk  
 Christopher Wilkening  
 Vera Chrissa Wilkins  
 Christopher Williams

Jacob Williams  
 Sydney Williams  
 Felicia Williamson  
 Justin Willis  
 Mary Wilson  
 Tara Wilson  
 James Wilt  
 Corey Winowitch

Amber Wood  
 Zachary Wood  
 Kortney Woodard  
 Lacey Wozniak  
 Benjamin Wright  
 Fawn Wright  
 Joseph Wright  
 Amanda Yakel







Jessica Yauch  
Rachel Ybarra  
Jaclyn Yester  
Jennifer York  
Natasha Younger  
Kevin Zbikowski  
Tracie Zerlau  
Alisha Zick



Gabrielle Ziller  
Natalie Zulkowski  
Adrian Zuniga

## FAVORITE PART OF PHS



**JOSEPH**

**DICCIO, 9**  
"I have to admit, I love the ladies here at the high school. They are just all a whole lot hotter than middle. That summer vacation really made a difference."

"My favorite part is probably the block scheduling because you only have to think about four classes instead of six or seven."

**AMANDA**



MADE IN  
WHAT IS YOUR

**EIGHTEEN**  
High school brings many opportunities to students that they have not seen before. Here, freshman Rachel Ybarra takes part in a dance competition.

**EIGHTEEN**  
The book *Marmalade Boy* was the inspiration for this t-shirt, made by freshman Emily Morris. Students had to read a book and make a t-shirt based on it.

## FAVORITE PART OF PHS



"It is more organized and mature compared to middle school, which means that it is not as fun."

**NATHAN INGRAM, 9**



# FACULTY

Marv Allison  
Jane Arden  
Heidi Babcock  
Bill Bodnar  
Carrie Brown  
Shirley Bustos  
Amanda Carlson  
Larry Casbon



Joshua Cavan  
Lois Chalmers  
Amanda Childers-Martin  
Scott Connor  
Barb Cook  
Kevin Damerell  
Rhonda Doane  
Diane Dominguez



Jim Douglas  
Jimmy Downes  
Maryann Eckart  
Mark Fischer  
Deborah Gannon  
Vanessa George  
Melanie Gorden  
John Hall



Mark Harsha  
Debra Heitmann  
Sandy Herr  
Jay Hodges  
Marian Horvay  
Tami Hudson  
John Iles  
Carrie Jensen







Dawn Johnson  
Mark Karmel  
Charity Kehoe  
Chris Kern  
Richard Kirchner  
Sue Kolodzianski  
Geri Kotyuk  
Kathy Kotyuk

Lestee Kretz  
Tom Levendowski  
Barb Lochmondy  
Bryan Lochmondy  
Marissela Lynch  
Jill Mangold  
Carrie Martin-Smith  
Bob Mattix

Dana McCoy  
Dan Merrill  
Terry Milner  
Pina Monsivias  
Patrick Moody  
Christina Mooradian  
Helen Mundell  
Ralph Mundt

Arlene Neill  
Penny O'neil  
Linda Parker  
Robert Parker  
Sheila Parker  
Melanie Peda  
Kristen Peterson  
Rob Prellwitz

Jennifer Randell  
Jill Redmon  
Aaron Riegler  
Virginia Rivea  
Carolyn Rodea  
Jose Rodea  
Latonda Rogers  
Millie Ruzbasan

## WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING fashion blunder of the 80's?



"The ultra-mullet, AKA  
"safety rocker hair."  
- Mr. Downes

"Tight rolled jeans and  
massive bangs with  
wings."  
- Ms. Metzinger

"Tight acid  
washed jeans"  
- Mr. Bartos



Leading by example is  
one way the Coach Jeff  
Smenyak inspires his  
students and athletes.



Elissa Schubert  
Sabrina Scroggin  
Larry Shepard  
Marjorie Slankowski  
Jeff Smenyak  
Jolene Smith  
Marcia Soyster  
Barbara Spitzer



Porter County  
Vocational counselor  
and HOSA co-sponsor Mrs.  
Kelli Ellis talks to club  
members on the importance  
of community service.



Getting ready for  
Star Wars 3? Nah,  
Mr. Jose Rodea just decided  
to teach his club a few  
lessons on weapon skill.



Strumming along  
and listening  
intently, Mrs. Carolyn Rodea  
works with the Acoustic  
Latin Guitar club on a new  
musical piece.







"Mad Dog" (a.k.a. Mr. Bill Bodnar) delights audiences every year while hosting the Variety Show and plugging the Spring Musical at every opportunity.

Laughing and enjoying themselves were only a small part of Mrs. Paula Weise's Leaders of Tomorrow class. Community service was the main focus.



## 80s babes .....

1. Kim Basinger
2. Bo Derek
3. Kathleen Turner
4. Stevie Nicks
5. Margaret Thatcher



© 1999 Warner Brothers



© 2004 Lucasfilm Ltd.

1. Harrison Ford
2. Tom Cruise
3. Mel Gibson
4. Richard Gere
5. Kevin Costner

## .....80s hunks



The faculty teams listens to a little advice from the Varsity B-Ball coach Steve Bartos. Whatever he said worked as the staff defeated the students one more time.



Sue Squire  
Marilynn Svetanoff  
Gail Trobaugh  
Paula Weise  
John Zack  
Lucas Zartman



# ORGANIZATIONS

Many students throughout the walls of Portage High School participate in one of the many clubs and organizations that the school offers. There were many different clubs and organizations in the 1980's here at Portage High School, but today there are a lot more offered to the student body.

Whether a student goes to the Anime Club, Tae-Kwon-Do, or Art Club these are all ways for students to meet new people, have a good time, and express themselves as individuals.

Organizations are usually sponsored by a faculty member and lead by a few student officers, which are voted on by other students involved in the club. Most of the clubs meet after school hours, however some meetings are held during resource time and on weekends.

Some, such as the Foreign Language clubs, were started to further students learning experience outside of class and familiarize members more with the culture of the people







**studied. Some of the clubs and organizations at Portage High School have also been started by students. These students have to find a sponsor and then receive permission from the office before they can even hold their first meeting. Other clubs began as a way for students to socialize and further develop their talents whether it is creating a mosaic, writing for a student publication, or performing a classical masterpiece.**

**Becoming a member of any club is sure to bring on many exciting experiences for a student throughout their high school career. These activities can open a students eyes to see a whole new world of opportunities for their futures. The clubs and organizations here at Portage High School have been impacting many students lives ever since the 1980's and they will continue to impact the future of the student body for many years to come.**

# ORGANIZATIONS



Deep in thought, a quiz bowl team member anxiously awaits for the next question. Quiz bowl is about mental prowess as well as how fast you react to the question.

In preparation for the academic super bowl, the math team met each week to study. They spent time reviewing and practicing for the event.



At a quiz bowl meet, Junior Nathan has his hand placed firmly on the buzzer. Quiz bowl is similar to jeopardy, but played on teams.

With their eyes on the television screen, students were able to test their knowledge. A series of questions covering various topics flashed across the screen for all to answer.







# Academic Teams

## Sharing Their Knowledge

Spread by KIM SANFLOSKY/KVBC



To wrap up the academics for the year, the teams were invited to an awards banquet after school. Individuals were recognized for their accomplishments on the teams.

The end of the year knowledge bowl was held after school. Anyone was able to come and answer quiz questions and enjoy pizza.



Everyone always has  
the will to volunteer  
in the National Honors  
Society. Senior  
Jacqueline Rice stood  
up with pride  
describing the shirt  
design she had made  
for the group. The  
final style was the  
one that Jackie had  
prepared.



One of the things  
that the NHS pride's  
themselves on is all  
the volunteer work  
that they do. Senior  
Paige Roy looks  
over one of the  
sheets to decide  
what she wants to  
do for the next  
exciting activity.



Attendance at  
meetings is  
imperative. Senior  
Rebecca Turpin  
calls roll to see  
which members are  
attending the  
assembly as senior  
Tim Statton gives  
the regular  
treasurer's report.







Before the meeting seniors Joet Slankowski and Steven Rosenbaum converse on the events that are going on in NHS. Briefly talking about the activities of their week and the upcoming meeting.



As reading over the meetings upcoming activities and events, juniors Brandon Bitter and Radey Alcantara decide on which things are plausible to them. Deciding on whether to join and participate in one or the other.



## THE FUTURE LEADERS OF AMERICA

STORY BY GENETHEVE A. NO. D

### WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF BEING IN NHS



"Having the responsibility to be a leader and to be helpful to people who are in need."

WOLLY LANE SENIOR

"National Honors Society is the most corrupt organization other than the Democratic Party."



DON LITLY SENIOR

"The great feeling you get when you help someone and do something for someone else."

CRYSTEN COFFEY JUNIOR



National Honors Society is an elite group of students, who are the best of the best.

At the beginning of the year the students with a 3.3 or higher GPA are allowed to apply to try and see if they will be accepted.

There are four principles that one must have to obtain the privilege of being in NHS. Character, Scholar, Leadership, and Service are the values that one must have in order to be accepted into the society.

Many people take pride in being accepted and feel as though they have accomplished something great.

"I was excited, I worked hard for the

chance to be looked at for all my academic abilities, so when I was accepted I was very happy," said junior Rachel Reed.

The Honors Society also does a lot of activities during the year, including the blood drive, Christmas in April, and other services that benefit the Portage community.

"I loved raking leaves for the elderly citizens, because they were so happy to see us," said senior Tasha Papachronis.

Altogether the National Honors Society is a society that is built and supported through strength and determination to succeed.



Almost in a trance, Senior Eric Mundt stares intently at the committee speaking, listening to what they have to say to see if any of it applies to him. Getting ready to volunteer for the next activity

While paying attention to the speakers, Junior Cristen Coffey listens for key points so she can jot down in her notebook. Taking notes on key ideas and relevant factors is essential in understanding NHS.



As volunteer sign-up sheets go around the room many people ponder what and how many activities they should apply for. Junior Stephanie Janis debates on whether or not she should sign up for yet another job

Closely examining the words of the presidents, Juniors Mary Craighead and Alycia Laboy pay pertinent attention to them. Listening to topics such as fundraising, Christmas in April, and Nursing Home Bingo







In the NMS, talking to Mrs. Schubert to see if a project is worth pursuing is essential. Juniors Lisa Whitworth and Sarah Felter confront her to see if their venture is valuable enough to chase and to see if it is a good idea.



## AN ACADEMIC STAR Steve Lemmann

- Q What is your self-motto?
- A As the small mustard seed grows into a tall tree, so I must, I man of meager beginnings, rich toward the sky and give shade to the masses.
- Q If you had to choose your favorite movie of all time what would it be?
- A It would have to be Braveheart.
- Q What is your favorite artist/song of all time?
- A Oar, and their song The Wonderer.
- Q What are your hobbies?
- A I like water sports, Philosophy, cats, explosives, Music, and the Bible.



Every year all of the members of the NMS have to sign the members book at the induction ceremony. Junior Rachel Reed signs in for her very first time as Mr. Floyd is ready to congratulate her with a handshake and a warm smile.



After the field trip to Merrillville, sponsor Mrs. Marissa Lynch gives a speech over the Multicultural Club outing. She spoke to everyone asking them what their experiences were and if they had a good time or not.

Intently listening to the sponsor of the Merrillville Multicultural club, called STAND, senior Josette Villegas takes in what he says. He spoke of segregation and issues with race in high schools.



The STAND group at Merrillville High School had a skill ready for the members of the Fortieth Multicultural Club about the effects of prejudice on people. Juniors Courtney Rogers-Sult, Olivia Zamarron, and Jasmine Caraballo watch the skill and get a couple of laughs in at the parodies that are portrayed.

As the performance continues, senior Logan Ortiz and sophomore Felicia Hendricks watch as a new skill is executed. The skill was about a boy being teased because he was too smart.



## WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE ACTIVITY OF THE YEAR?



"It would have to be the Merrillville exchange. I met a lot of new people and had a great experience involving myself in another school."

**SARAH SANTANA SENIOR**

"It was the student exchange with Merrillville. It was an experience being able to see how a different school runs and the similarities."

**YOGAN ORTIZ SENIOR**



"Going on the Merrillville exchange was one of the funnest activities of the year. I met many wonderful people and got to see how another school was run. I never knew how diverse their school was."

**JOSLINE GARZA JUNIOR**





# DIVERsITY IN PORTAGE HIGH

STORY BY GENEVIEVE ANDERSON

At Portage High School diversity is a major issue. The school keeps becoming more and more diverse and now it is finally being recognized after such a long time coming. Not a lot of Portage kids know that the high school has a Multicultural Club, and that is a shame. The Multicultural Club does a lot to try to create and spread diversity throughout the school and the Portage community. "I think that people should know more about the club and what it stands for. It is really hard to try

and get a huge population of students informed when there are only so many members," states junior Yasmin Corral. All of the members say that it would be great if they could get more people to help volunteer and spread the word of the club. "The club really does do great things, and I know that we could do a lot more if we had a more people," states sophomore Felicia Hendricks. Even though the number of members is dwindling their spirit is still strong.



After one of the meetings, senior Sarah Santana talks to one of the members about the upcoming fund-raiser. They did a scratch-off sheet that benefited the organization.

After the performance, the members were asked to talk about the differences between schools. Senior Rachael Whitworth and junior Yasmin Corral remarked on a few of the subtle dramatic disparities.





After the candle ceremony, senior Tiffany Gurski and juniors Caroline Hamden and Stephanie Hanna wait to receive their awards. They all were rewarded for their knowledge of the Spanish language.





Intently listening to the speech of Mr. Rivera, Juniors Ashley Davis and Jennifer De la Cruz take in the words of wisdom that he preaches. Both of them were rewarded for these skills in French.

With a smile on her face, junior Sara Olson gladly accepts her award, as senior Christina Pekovic waits for her turn. Both girls earned the great honor for through perseverance and hard work.



## a FOREIGN LANGUAGE STAR DANNY K. ADAMS

- 1 What is your favorite movie?
- 2 Let's see... "The Empire Strikes Back"
- 3 What is your favorite artist/song?
- 4 Only Green Day, they are my God. Longview is the best song ever written!
- 5 What is your self-motto?
- 6 If you want peace, prepare for war!
- 7 What are some of your hobbies?
- 8 I play the guitar, go to Green Day concerts, watch Green Day music videos... I eat, live, and breath Green Day everything. Heck ya!



Socially active after the ceremony, senior Ivan Malic converses with some of his fellow members of FLHS. Malic was awarded for his knowledge in two foreign languages.

After the ceremony everyone retired to the south cafeteria for food and drink. Senior Jacinta Anekwe looks on to see where everyone is and who she can say hello to next.



# PLANNING AHEAD

## HOSA AND BPA

Story by JESSAMINE RODRIGUEZ

BPA or Business Professionals of America is a club that teaches students business skills and prepares them for the world of business. The club competes in business competitions and attends leadership conferences. "BPA is an organization that offers leadership, participation, responsibilities, and many other life skills. It also provides recognition, scholarships, and other opportunities for the business work field," said senior Samantha Gembala. Many people join the club for different reasons. For some it may be a requirement for a class and others may just want the extra help to get prepared for future work. "Being in business tech club I didn't have a choice to join, but going to the contest

and competing in something of my knowledge made BPA more interesting to join," said Junior Nicole Jones. HOSA or Health Occupations students of America, is an organization that promotes career opportunities in the health care industry. HOSA provides students interested in a health career the opportunity to learn more about the health career of ones choice. "I plan to take part of pediatric nursing," stated Junior Stephanie Hood. HOSA helps many students choose what they want to be in the health field. HOSA and BPA students alike do well at their jobs. One can say that the business future will be filled with many students that will know what they're doing.

Photo by Jeremy Marton



Photo by JESSAMINE RODRIGUEZ



Vocational students in Mrs. Doane's dental class make molds of the human cavity during class. This is a good way to become familiar with the cavity.

A time out is well needed for these girls after they have been working hard. Junior Sarah Fetter takes a time out with the leader to discuss business other then HOSA.





Members of B.P.A., seniors Rachael Saron, Rebecca Turpin, and Nicole Beal, take charge at a meeting to go over things they need to know for competition.

Part of H.O.S.A. is to create art work having to do with the human body. Junior Shannon Jones practices how to judge art work in a H.O.S.A. competition.



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez



Photo by Genevieve Arnold

## WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART OF BPA



"The hardest part is going to the State Leadership conferences and competing."

**SARAH SCHWARTZ JUNIOR**

"Missing school and trying to catch up on all the homework."



**FARAH FAY SENIOR**



"Not knowing what is on the test because they don't give you the same job to look up."

**KRISTINE SARON JUNIOR**



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez

B.P.A. member sophomore Natashah Vahary pays close attention as other members gather to talk about B.P.A. competition. It is important to pay close attention so that one does not miss information.

H.O.S.A. members receive Practice problems before competition. Junior Vanessa Gaboian is discussing a practice problem with another H.O.S.A. member to prepare for the real problems.



Together juniors Stephanie Garner and Stephanie Tanis join to tell the class of their ideas for H.O.S.A. They are preparing the class for H.O.S.A. competition.

When help is needed, there is no harm in asking. Mrs. Ettis lends her helping hand to Juniors Tiffany Hansen and Olivia Zamarron.



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez

Members of the dental class come together to create a mold of the human cavity. A vocational student takes a mold of senior Michael Schmitz teeth for the extra practice needed for the dental profession.



Photo by Jeremy Marston



## What was HOSA help you accomplish



**NICOLE SAVOY, PT JUNIOR**  
"It has helped me choose the medical field I want to join and prepare me for medical school."



**JISA VINTWORTH, JUNIOR**  
"HOSA helps unite all health Academy students to achieve a common goal."



**SARAH FEILER, JUNIOR**







As shown by Seniors Rachael Sarson and Rebecca Turpin, friendship is an important factor when working side by side. Taking time out for a hug shows friendship.



Photo by Genevieve Arnold

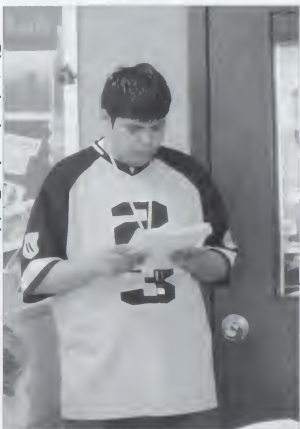


Photo by Genevieve Arnold



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez



H.O.S.A. members take turns explaining different topics for competition. Junior Kimberly Weiland and a vocational student are explaining what needs to be done.



Quickly going over the packet, Senior Alejandro Chavez goes through information that will help him during the B.P.A. competition. Practice always makes perfect.





At the leadership conference, junior Keith Roy helps out the other members. Roy has been a member of the council since freshman year.

All smiles, senior Brittany Banic chats with other members. Banic has been in student council throughout her four years.



## HELPING OTHERS AROUND THE COMMUNITY

STORY BY KATHY YUOT

Every year the Student Council of Portage High School does a lot to keep the school and community involved in many fun activities. The students involved in this organization take time out of their lives to help people within the community, around the world, and within the walls of Portage High School.

"The Student Council is a great group of people who not only work hard to achieve their goals, but also show great leadership skills throughout the activities that they do. We all work together to improve the overall conditions of the school and our community," Junior Donald Lentz addressed.

The council participated in many events throughout the year such as a

dance-a-thon for the tsunami relief victims, raised money for school activities, and went to retreats to learn lessons about other schools that they would be able to apply here.

"The dance-a-thon was really fun. We got to have competitions throughout the night to show off dance skills of our fellow students." Junior Keith Roy stated.

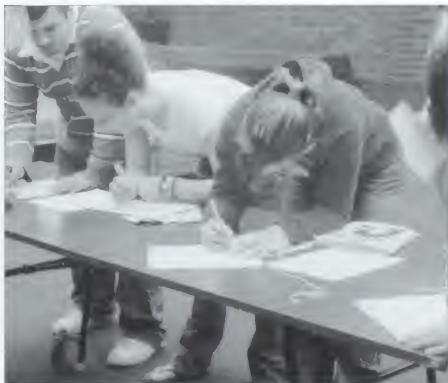
The money raised within the year helped students here at PHS, victims of tsunami's and also different people within our community. The Student Council gives our school a great name by helping throughout the community, and raising money to help students here at Portage High School.





Also members of the junior class, juniors Brian Norkus, Kimberly Payne, and Donald Lentz help out at pizza sales. This event helped make money for prom.

The voting for student council was a crucial event. The members campaigned for their in position for several days.



Student council members juniors Jasmine Carabatto and Olivia Zamarron also help at pizza sales. The members have done charity work through the council.



As the day wore on, many fun activities were experienced. Here senior Robert Bailey attempts to untie a bunch of knots.



At their private lunch, seniors David Hinojosa and Anthony Leal enjoy their meal. The council members chatted together during their break. The conference was a great success.



Kids from the middle schools were also invited to the conference. The council hopes to have some of them join when they get into high school.

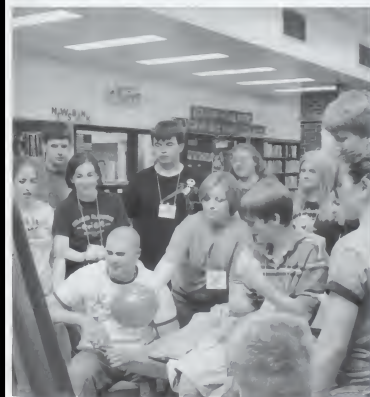






Each year for the conference, the student council gets the cafeteria to themselves. Senior Brittany Banic and fellow council members enjoy the lunch that was provided for them to eat.

A slight smile is brought to junior Brian Norkus during the conference. Norkus has participated in many events through the student council.



Here council members of all ages and groups mix to go over a student lead activity. Junior Lisa Whitworth, Eric Tharp and Robert Liesch observe the board of events.



In an enthralling activity, sophomore Kathleen Hargarten shows middle school kids how to play the game. The kids have hopes to join the club next year.







Annee Bada  
and  
Jane Woods



Shannon Stiles  
and  
Valerie W. Hall



Steve Goodrich  
and  
Joe Stevens



Amy Semplavsky  
and  
Laurie Little



Whitney Hall  
and  
Van Wolf



Timothy Madison  
and  
Sarah Brown



Ashley Parrish  
and  
Benjie Albert



Elizabeth Pugh  
and  
Cindy Schmitt



Brittany Banks  
and  
Bill Bodnar



Caitlin Bartz  
and  
Mary Allison



Corey Myle  
and  
Gerri Koryak



Daniel Bibby  
and  
Marston Mundt



David Reisen  
and  
Marjorie Slomkowski



Eric Menden  
and  
John Peltz

## CELEBRATING ACADEMIC

# excellence!

STORY BY:  
ANDREW CULP

EVERY YEAR, THE TOP THIRTY STUDENTS OF THE SENIOR CLASS ARE INVITED TO BE PLACED IN THE ANNALS HISTORY AS PART OF THE PRESTIGIOUS GROUP KNOWN AS ACES, OR ACADEMIC CHAMPIONS EXCELLING IN SCHOOL. EACH SPRING, THERE IS A BANQUET HELD TO CELEBRATE AND COMMEMORATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS MADE BY THESE THIRTY STUDENTS. EACH STUDENT GETS THE CHANCE TO PICK ONE TEACHER FROM THROUGHOUT HIS OR HER SCHOOL CAREER THAT HAS HELPED HIM OR HER EXCEL.

THIS YEAR'S ACES BANQUET WAS HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2005 IN THE OAKWOOD GRAND HALL AT THE WOODLAND PARK PAVILION. A DINNER WAS SERVED AT 6:30 P.M., WHILE THE AWARDS CEREMONY BEGAN AT 7:30 P.M..

TO BEGIN THE BANQUET, PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL RICHARD KIRCHNER INTRODUCED SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT TERRY HUFFORD AND SUPERINTENDENT MICHAEL BERTA TO EACH PRESENT A SPEECH TO THE ATTENDEES OF THE BANQUET. KIRCHNER THEN BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THOSE IN ATTENDANCE.

AFTER THE THREE GAVE THEIR SPEECHES, THE DISTRIBUTING OF AWARDS BEGAN. EACH STUDENT RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE AND A MEDAL.

THE INSPIRATIONAL TEACHERS OF EACH STUDENT RECEIVED A GLASS TROPHY OF AN APPLE. KIRCHNER CALLED EACH STUDENT AND TEACHER COMBINATION UP AS HUFFORD AND BERTA GAVE THEM EACH THEIR AWARDS.

TO GAIN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF BEING A PART OF ACES TAKES HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION ON THE PART OF THE STUDENT. ONE MUST PUSH

HIM OR HER SELF TO GAIN THE GRADES NECESSARY IN ORDER TO BE A PART OF THIS INSTITUTION.

"I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF 'ASCENDING THE RANKS' AND BEING SOMEONE KNOWN FINALLY," SENIOR ASHLEY PARRISH EXPLAINS. "THROUGH MY OWN HARD WORK, I HAVE. I FEEL THAT THE MAJORITY OF MY SUCCESS IS OUR TO MY OWN PERSONAL DRIVE."

THE TEACHERS, AS WELL, DESERVE THEIR OWN PROVERBIAL "PAT ON THE BACK." ALONG WITH TEACHING THEIR OWN SUBJECT, THEY HAVE GONE THE EXTRA MILE TO TOUCH AND IMPACT STUDENTS' LIVES. THEY HAVE INSPIRED AND DRIVEN THIS YEAR'S ACES TO DO THE VERY BEST THEY CAN ACADEMICALLY, AS WELL AS IN LIFE. THE VERY IDEA BEHIND THE INSTITUTION OF ACES WAS SO THAT THESE STUDENTS, AS WELL AS THE TEACHERS, COULD BE AWARDED FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE EXCELLENCE.

"I FELT WE NEEDED TO HAVE A CELEBRATION OF SOME TYPE THAT COULD HONOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE," KIRCHNER SAYS. "WE HAVE BANQUETS FOR MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES, AND I FELT WE SHOULD NOT LOSE SIGHT THAT ACADEMICS IS THE MAIN COMPONENT OF AN EDUCATION."

CERTAINLY, THE CELEBRATING OF SENIORS' ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH ACES WILL PROCEED FORTH INTO THE FUTURE FOR YEARS TO COME. AS ADVICE TO FUTURE MEMBERS OF ACES, SENIOR COREY NIGH SAYS, "WORK TO YOUR POTENTIAL, ALWAYS LEARN FOR THE SAKE OF LEARNING, AND, ABOVE ALL ELSE, PLAN AHEAD."





Steven Lohman  
and  
John Cox



Linda Winans  
and  
Carrie Cole



Lisa Benson  
and  
Chuck Henderson



Barbara Turpin  
and  
Peter Parker



Malady Young  
and  
Haley Kotyuk



Laura Merlino  
and  
Roberta Jodie



Tashell Green  
and  
Bryan Lechinsky



Paige Roy  
and  
Kristina Lyrah



Kristin Feder  
and  
Janet Smith



Members of the JROTC present the American flag and the United States Marine Corps flag at the beginning of the ACES banquet. After presenting the flags, the drill team left the banquet hall.



Without hesitation, senior Daniel Biby and his inspirational teacher Marston Mundt skip to the front of the hall to receive their awards. This is Mundt's sixth glass apple.



Kevin Fickens  
and  
Jeff Smeyak



Kelly Canner  
and  
Christa Toman



Heidi Nelson  
and  
Jeff Salomon



Joel Skowronski  
and  
William Schett



Janylene Gustin  
and  
Tami Yon



Janelle Rice  
and  
David Masty



Katelyn Kennedy  
and  
Marilee Haupt



# artistically DIVINE

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RONI MERT

Though the numbers have dwindled the fun, spirit, creativity, and learning have not. Art club has been happening at this school for years and may students don't understand what it's all about. For these students it's a place to relax, learn, and make a few new friends.

Mr. Eich sponsors the art club. He stays after to ensure the students have a safe haven after school. It's really a place for the artists to express themselves.

A portion of the attendance is made up of students trying to finish up their work for their own art classes. The rest of it is made up of students who truly love art.

"I like having other people in the room they keep the club live and active," said sophomore Moana Parker.

The ladies are very humble even though many of their projects have been entered and won in art shows. There are gentle men in the club too.

"There are boys in art club, they just don't come much," stated sophomore, Moana Parker.

Many consider art club off limits to the students that are in spots, however that's not the case.

"I've been in art club for a while," said

Parker who has also been on a swim team since she was five years old.

Much like swimming a couple people come here just to relax and not care what any body thinks.

"Many people consider me creepy I know but, it's a place to lay back and imagine a masterpiece of paradise," said sophomore, Felicia Hendricks.

The attendees would like the school to know that they enjoy going because "Mr. Eich is totally cool."

This his second year being the sponsor though it is out of charter for him to stay after school he enjoys helping students expand their art careers.

"Mrs. Weise stepped down and so the spot was open and I thought it would be interesting," stated sponsor Mr. Eich. Though nothing appears to have changed when he took over that's not the case.

"Every one feels more at ease I think," stated Stephanie Garner.

Mr. Eich enjoys his new position and so does the rest of the club. Art club has been very successful this year. Many of students have sent pieces to shows and won! Nice job guys.



"Just making some finishing touches," stated sophomore Brinee Berman. She has been in art club for two years. Berman stills looks forward to going on Tuesdays after school for years to come.

Anonymously beautiful is the title of sophomore Moana Parker's painting. She hopes her hard work will pay off in the art show.

ART ADDICT

Moana Parker



- Q How long have you been in art club?
- A "About a year, its so much fun. I love it"
- Q Why do you come?
- A "Its groovy"
- Q What's your favorite project?
- A "Anonymously Beautiful, its full of swirls and colors."
- Q Were do you get your ideas?
- A "Its not ideas its just paint!"

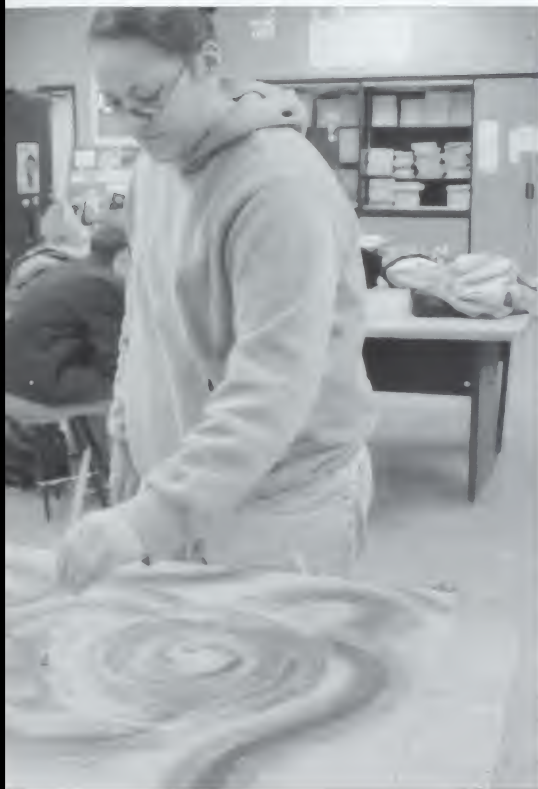






A different angle is sometimes used to perfect a painting. Junior Ashley Davis does this by tilting her head.

Intense work on a drawing is just what Sophomore Amanda Todd, is staying after for. Listening to music also keeps her after.



While finishing up her care bear assignment, freshman, Erin Strang concentrates deeply. Strang enjoys being able to take some of her free time to work on her artwork.



# NOT JUST HORNS AROUND

STORY BY REGAN RICHMOND

Portage High School offers many different kinds of clubs and organizations for the students to partake in, but the one that most people don't know about is the chess club. The chess club consists of many different students, all with different friends and interests, but their love for playing chess brings them together each week.

"I love playing chess." States freshman Ryan Richmond. "It is a very challenging game and it requires me to think out my strategies so that I can win the game against my opponent." Even if you don't know how to play chess then you can still go and someone will teach you how to play. "Although some of the people

here are crazy sometimes, there really aren't as many "nerds" as most people would think." Says junior and president of chess club Rachel Pekar. "There is such a variety of different people here and it's a very fun environment to be in."

The chess club has been meeting every Wednesday after school for three years and every year they seem to get a few more members, but not enough for some.

"I would really like to get a lot more people interested in the club." States junior Jeremiah Martin. "Everyone should know that chess club is a lot of fun and the people in the club are really cool and interesting. We really need more people."



## WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE PERSON TO PLAY AGAINST



"I love playing Levi Quinton, because he is one of the best players in the club. He's great competition."

**RACHEL PEKAR, JUNIOR**

"I will play against anyone who is willing. I'm not a very good player so I'm not much of a challenge."



**RACHEL PEKAR, JUNIOR**

"Rachel Pekar, I've only gotten to play her once, but I had more fun playing against her than with any other person."



**JEREMIAH MARTIN, JUNIOR**

One should always have their best game face on so not to let your opponent know what you are thinking. Freshman Anthony Schuch is trying to intimidate his opponent by using his best game face. This is Schuch's first year in the club.



PHOTO BY REGAN RICHMOND



When playing chess you must always think ahead or have some kind of plan for your next move. Freshman Kevin Ziskowski tries to think of the right combination of moves that will help him win the game against all of his opponents.

A game of chess can take hours to finish because of the time the players take to think about their next move. Senior Joshua Ray takes his time in making a decision about his next move so that he doesn't lose any of his game pieces.



PHOTO BY BRAD STASK



Slow and steady always wins the race. Junior Christopher Phillips tries to take his time when thinking of his next move. He also tries to think of the special combination of moves that will help him win the game against his opponent.

PHOTO BY BRAD STASK

At the last meeting of the year the club celebrated their seniors. Pop, cake and brownies were served during the party. Junior Levi Quinton helped celebrate playing chess with his friends and eating cake in between his moves.

PHOTO BY REGEN REWARD





With the help of their instructor, sophomores Betsy Brown and Leigha Smith find it easier to learn a knit stitch. Learning to knit is easier through visual aid.



# KNITT WITTS

## breaking the STereotype



STORY BY KATHY ROYCE

For some, when they think of knitting they are reminded of their grandmother knitting away in her rocker. However, that stereotype is destroyed by the Knitt-Witts.

The Knitt-Witts is a knitting club sponsored by art teachers Mrs.

Wanda Rice and Mrs. Annette Kulmatycki. This was the first year for knitting club. It was open to all, regardless if they knew how to knitt or not.

"I always wanted to learn to knit and what better place to do it than after school with my friends," said senior Kayla Conroy who has been knitting

ever since then.

Students got to learn the basics in knitting. They even got to work on several projects. They first started off with making wash cloths, and then

scarves. They even learned how to make a toy for cats. Their next project is to make a knit cap.

"I was excited to join knitting club, because I have been wanting to learn how to make a red knit cap," stated senior Krisan Cieszkiewicz.

Not only did students leave the club learning how to knit, but they also left with several other things. Students learned how to challenge themselves, not to give up, patience, and most of all they left with new friends.

"I learned that just one stitch can start a really cool project and that it is easier to learn something if you can see your progress I have learned so much from the knitting club," stated senior Laura Merkner.



Focused on the task at hand, seniors Krystle Dove and Laura Merkner work on their projects. This is the girls first year in the club.



Carefully. Senior Jessica Blanton begins to cast on. This is the first step you learn, and it is needed for every project.







## LEARN HOW TO MAKE A KNIT STITCH

1.



The needle in your left hand should have the stitch, and it should be near the tip. With the other needle in your right hand, wrap the yarn around your fingers as shown.

2.



Insert the right needle from front to back into the first stitch on the left needle. Making sure to keep the right needle under the left needle and the yarn at the back.

3.



Wind the yarn under and then over the right needle, and gently tug on the yarn.

4.



Pull the yarn through the stitch and slip the original stitch off the left needle.



It can be somewhat difficult to learn a new stitch. Seniors Krisan Gieszkiewicz and Jana Zervos approach it with a can do attitude.

Needles in hand, senior Kayla Conroy makes sure she's on track. New stitches can sometimes be frustrating.



With smiles on their faces, seniors Laura Merkner and Jana Zervos work on their winter scarves. The knitting club's first project of the year was a scarf.





An audience  
does not scare  
junior Wendy  
Spacek. Feeling  
comfortable  
around her  
fellow peers  
Spacek reads  
her short story.



# THE art OF eXpression

STORY BY WENDY SPACEK

Expression is very important, as Reading Club and Writers Block members already know. Members of both clubs have a clear understanding of the importance of expression.

In Reading Club students choose a book to read, then in the following meeting they discuss their dislikes and likes about the book. Writers Block members on the other hand are able to read their own personal stories and poems. They are also allowed to read other students work if they were to

shy to read their own just simply or just simply could not attend one of the meetings.

"You can share your writing with people you can relate to in your own age group, people you get along with. We're like a family, and this room is like our home, but it's easier here," states Writers Block member freshman Krystal Vivian.

Freshman Writers Block member Mea Rose Siroky stated, "besides writing we also play Scrabble, talk, and have fun."

Members of each club has enjoyed their time spent in the learning of the art of expression.



With *Breaking Point* by Alex Flinn, senior Genevieve Arnold looks over her favorite part. Arnold won a book by Flinn.



Slightly shy, freshman Elizabeth Feliciano recites one of her writings. Writers block has helped Feliciano get over fear of being in front of a crowd.







Confidence is a big part of Writers Block, as freshman Mariah Hamang learns. It takes a lot to get up and read a personal poem.

Pamphlet in hand, seniors Sarah Santana, Genevieve Arnold, and Tegan Ortiz go over their options for their next book choice. They ended up choosing the novel *Breaking Point*.



## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE WRITING

"My favorite writing definitely has to be *The Mayor of Casterbridge* by Thomas Hardy.



**erin gray, junior**

The ability to listen to others is an important skill as sophomore Brie Anne Back shows. It is essential to show respect for others.





In their small group seniors Ashley Jalovecky, Amanda Morales, Christopher Curiel, and junior Lisa Whitworth lay together for a picture. The group was part of the spring retreat.



# LIFE LESSONS

## LEARNED

STORY BY ANDREW CUP  
AND JESSICA WOODS

Natural Helpers, to most students, is a mystery. What happens in the confines of the retreat location is only known to a select few. Those selected by their peers as the trustworthiest are invited to join the group known as Natural Helpers.

At the beginning of each year, the students are given an anonymous survey consisting of two questions. Those questions are as follows: "What friends do you confide in with your problems? What teachers do you feel comfortable discussing personal problems with?" To be invited to the retreat, one must be selected by a minimum of five of his/her peers.

"When I was pulled out of class, at first, I was nervous because I was not sure of the reason, but after I found out I had been invited to go on the retreat I felt extremely happy," explains junior Robert Liesch.

The retreat takes place two weekends a year: once in the fall and once in the spring. On each trip, roughly twenty students travel to a remote camp in which they do not know of it's setting until their arrival.

During the weekend, students were given the opportunity to experience many different activities and meet new people they may have never had a chance to become acquainted with.

"Over the weekend I had the chance to spend time with a diverse group of people that I would normally not have had the opportunity to meet. I came out of this retreat with a numerous amount of new friends," explains senior Genevieve Nimeth.

After letting down their barriers and becoming more comfortable with their peers and surroundings the students and staff took part in a variety of discussions and other related activities. Leading the retreat were journalism teacher Mr. Mark Karmel and Mrs. Kelli Ellis. The pair have been affiliated with the natural helpers program for the past several years and made an opportunity for multiple groups of students to attend the trip.

With each group of students the advisors take along on the trip many come back to with great experiences of the past weekend and numerous new tactics to aid themselves and others in coping with every day occurrences. Students learn important skills such as to love themselves, not to become overloaded with the problems of others, and to learn how to distribute the time they have. If nothing else the trip is a memorable way to develop an understanding take a deeper look into the lives of themselves and others on the retreat.



Exhausted Kyle Devaney and Bradley Alcantara rest. The students received little sleep during the retreat.

While playing a game senior Melanee Dallas jumps into Kyle Devaney's arms. The duo participated in many activities over the weekend.







Adam Higgins, Shaun Gannon, Christopher Curiel, Paul Hobgood, Kyle Devaney, Alexander Tkarsky, Samantha Lingenfelter, Jacklyn Gore, Brittany Gill, Genevieve Nimeth, Melanee Dallas, Jessica Hodges, Radley Alcantara, Melody Young, Samantha Tampler, Megan Rodriguez, Kelly Schoon, Alexandra Stewart, Whitney Keelling, Brittany Esposito, Jasmine Caraballo, Autumn McCormick, Jessica Bolint, Aaron Lopez, Sarah Tugurian, and Shannon Stutler.



Darko Jasnic, Mr.D, Mr. Karmel, Michael Kirk, Robert Bailey, Robert Liesch, David Hinojosa, Mark Scheuer, Amanda Feeney, Sanae Ibrahim, Natalie Kovachevich, Christopher Curiel, Elizabeth Koonce, Genevieve Nimeth, Mrs. Kretz, Mrs. Ellis, Lisa Whitworth, Abigail Fink, Amanda Morales, Teri Harrington, Ashley Jalovecky, Cara Horner, Melody Young, Robert Leib



In between activities staff member Sarah Tugurian clowns around. Tugurian was one of five staff members



In a fit of laughter  
Brittany Gill talks  
with senior  
Genevieve Nimeth.  
Nimeth was chosen  
as a spring retreat  
staff member later  
in the year.

Together the fall  
staff members  
group and smile.  
The staff members  
were chosen by Mr.  
Karmel and Mrs.  
Ellis after writing  
an essay.



Deprived of  
sleep junior  
Alexandra  
Stewart naps.  
Students slept  
only a few  
hours during  
the weekend.



## WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER MOST



"I remember most the activities and presentations that took place on the retreat."

**AARON LOPEZ JUNIOR**

"I will always remember the staff and the way they planned the weekend."



"I will never forget Mark and Kelli as well as the staff and guests who made Natural Helpers sweet."

**ROB WOLCOTT JUNIOR**







Huddled together the faculty and cabin counselors smile. Cabin counselors were chosen from a retreat two years prior.

Clumped together the fall group listens attentively to Mr. Karmel and Mrs. Ellis. Both have been involved with the retreat for years.





## THEATRE GROUP

### gets round of applause

STORY BY:  
AMANDA BURCH

for another  
successful year

AN ELITE TEAM OF STUDENTS HAS BANNED TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN TO PUT TOGETHER THIS YEAR'S STAGE PRODUCTIONS. THIS TEAM IS NONE OTHER THEN OUR VERY OWN PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL THESPIANS.

MOST DO NOT KNOW THE MANY HOURS SPENT AFTER SCHOOL AND ON WEEKENDS THAT ARE USED TO PREPARE FOR THE YEAR'S PRODUCTIONS. FROM PRACULA TO SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE, TO OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN IN THE MIDDLE, AND LET'S NOT FORGET OUR LADIES IN THE FINAL EVENT OF THE YEAR, THE PORTAGE JUNIOR MISS PAGEANT.

"I REALLY ENJOY THE FACT THAT I GET TO DO SOMETHING I LOVE AND HANG OUT WITH MY FRIENDS AT THE SAME TIME SINCE WE DON'T REALLY GET TO SEE DURING SCHOOL DUE TO THE FACT THAT WE DON'T HAVE ANY CLASSES TOGETHER. IT IS A WAY FOR US TO SPEND A LITTLE QUALITY TIME!" STATES JUNIOR RAMI PIERS. WITH THE EXCITEMENT OF OPENING NIGHT, MOST DO NOT GET TO SEE THE BEHIND THE SCENES ASPECTS OF ALL THE HARD WORK THAT IS PUT INTO THE YEAR'S PRODUCTIONS. "IT IS PROBABLY A GOOD THING THAT MOST

\* DON'T GET TO SEE ALL OF THE BEHIND THE SCENES ACTION, IT GETS DOWN RIGHT UGLY SOMETIMES! JUST KIDDING! BUT IN THE END IT ALL PAYS OFF WHEN THE CURTAIN OPENS ON OPENING NIGHT AND YOU GET THE REACTION FROM THE AUDIENCE THAT YOU HOPED FOR." EXCLAIMS, SOPHOMORE KAITLIN ELLIS.

\* MANY STUDENTS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THESPIANS FOR MANY YEARS. MOST DO NOT KNOW THAT WITH THE SELLING OF ADS AND WORKING THE CORRECT NUMBER OF SHOWS, THERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN A VARSITY LETTER

AS WELL. FOR MOST THOUGH, IT IS ALL ABOUT THE THEATRE EXPERIENCE, LEARN OPPORTUNITIES, AND LASTING FRIENDSHIPS.

"I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THESPIANS FOR A WHILE AND EVERY YEAR GETS BETTER, NOT ONLY PRODUCTION WISE, BUT BECAUSE OF FRIENDSHIPS AND ALL THE FUN WE HAVE PUTTING IT TOGETHER." RECALLS JUNIOR LINDSEY DAVIS.

IN THE END IT IS A REWARDING EXPERIENCE AND SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE RECOGNITION FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH.

In another performance of the evening, senior Jana Zervos astounds all with her spectacular piano playing skills. Hard work and determination are what has brought thus far.



As the night goes on, seniors Brie Hettrick and Brittany Banic take a moment to grasp it all. The thespians banquet was a night to remember and a chance to celebrate the successful year.



In my future I plan to carry my theater experience on to larger scale settings, such as Broadway, or a community theatre.







Center stage, Senior David Hinojosa bedazzles the audience as he is in a duet with Amanda Morales. Cabaret was the musical inspiration behind this

While waiting to take the stage for her act, senior Amanda Morales adjusts her costume. Morales has been the only member to remain an active thespian since her freshman year.



While performing a motif during the thespians banquet, senior Christopher Bolint, rocks out. In between awards being handed out, live acts were performed by thespians.



# WRITING

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MICHAEL W. GANNON

This year the publication of *Saga* carries on with their talents in literary publication (it is the magazine). The *Saga* features many forms of artwork, short stories, poetry, drawings, prose, paintings, fictional accounts, tales, fables, scripts, biographies, essays, parables, myths, legends, and other publications in an editorial arrangement.

"The purpose of the *Saga* is to allow students an outlet for their artistic tomfoolery and give the students vocal possibilities they could once only dream of," stated senior Shaun Gannon, who is the

editor of the *Saga*.

The *Saga* accumulates the artwork and other publications of the student body and studies them many times through out the year, and then they vote on which selections will be selected for the actual *Saga*.

"We arrange the artwork in an acceptable format that we, the *Saga* staff, concoct, and enter these into a computer. Then we print out a copy, and send the printed copy to the printing press at Portage High School. In conclusion, I basically type up the stuff people give me so they can read it," says Gannon.

When working on the school publication, junior Amanda Campbell, concentrates on her work. It takes patience when working on the *Saga*.

Creative thought is needed while writing for the *Saga*. Junior Wendy Spacek, listens to music while finishing up the lasting touches to *Saga*.



## HOW DO YOU THINK THE WHOLE *SAGA* EXPERIENCE WENT?

"We had some trials and tribulations that we were forced to overcome, but we vanquished our personal demons and forged what could be the greatest student publication that all the cosmos have ever encountered."

SHAUN GANNON, SENIOR



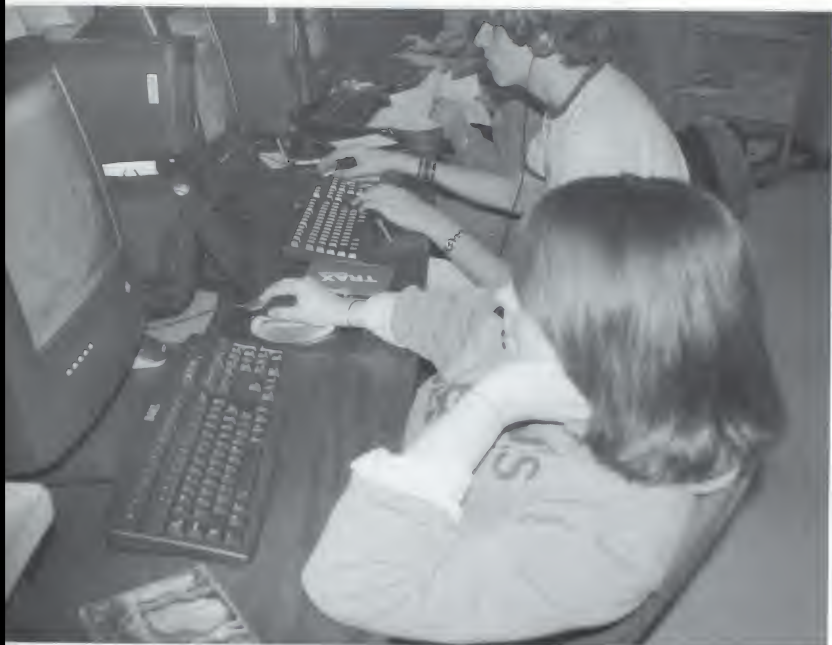
While writing down information for *Saga*, junior Jennifer Hall, continues to work hard on her publications. Hall has been involved in *saga* for one term.



Even when the tensions of making deadlines for the *SAGA*, sophomore Elise Kiltner double checks her grammar before entering in the poems needed. Kiltner must check each and every poem before it is submitted into the *SAGA*.







Double checking with Ms. Lute-Brown, junior Kylie Beaudreau, asks her teacher for help on her work. Beaudreau is a dedicated worker on the saga staff.

Many peers don't quite understand the stress that a school publication can bring. Sophomore Cat Botcher works diligently on her work while maintaining her stress.



Prior to a deadline editor Dustin Foster puts on the finishing touches. Foster was one of the editors-in-chief.

First year staff member Brian Priest plans out his story by witting out a rough draft. Priest worked as a reporter.



Photo By: Kimberly Nelson



Photo By: Kimberly Nelson

## Preparing For The Future

Story By Jessica Woodcock

Each year the Pow Wow staff publishes numerous issues of the newspaper and distributes them the student body. The staff works to uncover the top local stories and make them known to the public.

"We begin the process of creating the paper by distributing story ideas, turning in rough drafts, revising and proofreading our work, placing the stories into the designs, turning in them into babies, and finally sending the paper to press," explains sophomore Vincent Razo.

To the students and staff the procedure of putting together the paper is somewhat of a mystery. Many do not realize the work and dedication that putting together a newspaper requires. Consisting of many members, the class requires immense amounts of effort and commitment in order to run smoothly.

Despite minor setbacks staff faces, the goal of the paper is to create an outlet for students and Pow Wow staffers to express their viewpoints in a professional, mature manner.

"I joined the Pow Wow staff because I enjoy having a medium to voice my

personal thoughts and provide the student body with important information," explains editor Dustin Foster.

Each issue of the Pow Wow includes various sections that provide students with an abundance of information. On a regular basis these sections include: feature, sports, fusion, in depth, opinion, and miscellaneous. All sections include an assortment of stories that appeal to a range of diverse opinions.

With each story or page design completed staff members further their knowledge and experience in many different areas of journalism. Often the students who participate in this class walk away from high school with a sufficient amount of know how to be able to pursue some type of photography or journalism career if they choose.

"I plan to attend Indiana University and work towards receiving a Bachelor's degree in journalism," states senior Ashley Craft.

Whether the members of the newspaper decide to follow through with a journalism career or they choose to go after another degree this experience will undoubtedly aid them in whatever path they wish to go down.

In frustration reporter Jacob Zuidervliet asks a class member for help. This was Zuidervliet's first year on the pow wow staff.



Photo By: Kimberly Nelson







Photo By: Kimberly Nelson

While typing a story reporter Shaun Gannon completes his article. Gannon was a staff member on the spring natural helpers retreat.

## Why Did You Join

"I joined the paper because I wanted to give people something to read that is educational and totally awesome."

Shaun Gannon Senior



Photo By: Kimberly Nelson

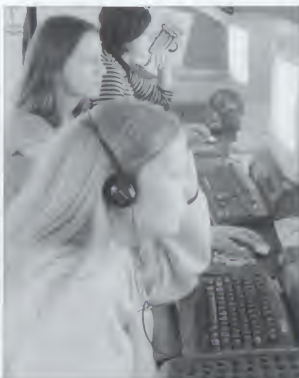


Photo By: Kimberly Nelson

Deep in thought feature editor Kimberly Nelson corrects a classmates work. Nelson has been on staff for the past two years.

While concentrating on her assignment reporter Rachel Pekar listens to music. This was Pekar's first year on staff.



# PLEASE SPREAD THE LOVE

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CATHY WELLS AND JOP

As all high schools go, everyone has a yearbook. It is one of the things that throughout the year's one can look at and recollect on all past victories and memories of a greater time when they were young.

"I think that a yearbook is very significant. It has been an privileged and an honor to be a coeditor this year and to be able to help and advise all of my staff members," expressed graciously senior Kelley Yudi.

This year's theme was entitled "Made in The 80's." It was a theme proved to be loved and enjoyed by the staff and also showed to be true that every student

was "technically" made in the 80's.

"I really loved the 80's theme. It was something different then what has been done in the previous years," stated junior Nikita Momola.

As another year comes to an end, the yearbook staffers all clutter to try and get all their spreads done.

"Everyone really put in a lot of heart and hard work into this book. We all deserve a huge pat on the back." Junior Rami Piers exclaimed.

All in all this years book in bound to be an overwhelming success. It is looking to be one of the most exciting and original yearbooks to come along yet.



Every day in yearbook, junior Katherine Batista looks over her work before making the changes on her spread. Batista has been involved in yearbook for two years.

At the yearbook lock in, senior Megan Richmond works on a story. Richmond is an assistant editor this year, and has been on staff since she was a sophomore.







Before the last deadline, junior Amanda Baruch hurries away to finish her spread for the editors before senior week. Baruch is a prominent member of the yearbook staff and has helped out immensely.



While concentrating on the task at hand, junior Hannah McKee works to finish her work for the second deadline. This was McKee's first year on the Legend yearbook staff.



The editors always help out their staff members when ever they need it. Senior Kelley Yadt helps out one of her staff members, senior Erica Rodriguez on her Acoustic Latin guitar spread.



At the yearbook lock in on Friday, April 16th, Juniors Andrew Culp and Kathryn Batista take a break from their work. The lock in that night lasted from after school until about ten thirty.



Before each deadline, the editors work furiously. Senior Meredith McLeod works hard on her spread. McLeod has been on the staff since her sophomore year.



At the yearbook lock in, staff members take a break. Senior Erica Rodriguez reads a magazine as other members enjoy ice cream. This is Rodriguez's first year on staff.







## WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SPREAD DESIGN



"Varsity baseball, it was my last spread and I knew how to complete it the right way."

**JASMINE RODRIGUEZ, JUNIOR**



"Variety Show because I had a lot of fun people that I got to quote."

**RAMI FIER'S, JUNIOR**



"I enjoyed writing my mini-mag story. I liked learning about my story topic."

**STEPHANIE GREER, JUNIOR**



After vigorous concentration, senior Krisan Cieszkiewicz takes a break. Cieszkiewicz's spreads consisted of the Faculty section, Tae-Kwon-do, and also OYM.



With the stress of deadline dates nearing, Junior Jessica Hodges and senior Ashley Jatovecky work on their spreads. Hodges concentrated on Poms, while Jatovecky on her midyear spread.

Teamwork is a key factor in the yearbook classroom. Senior Genevieve Arnold helps out another staff member with their spread.



To teach the students basic defense, Mr. Jose Rodeo uses senior Joshua Henry as an example. Here he is using self defense hand movements.



# DEFENSE MADE FUN

STORY BY KRISTEN KOSKOVIC

★ The Korean art of self defense, taekwon do, is a popular style of karate that is offered to all students as an after school activity. Literally translating as "the art of hand and foot fighting," the sport takes much focus and dedication. The group meets two times a week, as well as occasional belt ceremonies. Whether the student is involved for fun or for exercise, it is a great way to learn self defense.

"I like having fun with friends and learning how to defend myself. I don't dislike anything about it so far," says freshman Nikolas Skubish. Students are taught forms, kicks, sparring, and other various basic defense techniques. While some join to be involved and make new friends, sophomore Michael Benjamin decided to join, "to get stronger and learn self defense."



photo by Stephanie Greer

★ Here the students are being taught basic forms. Forms help to aid in the development of coordination and rhythm.

★ To demonstrate an attack, senior Robert Grecelius is pinned to the ground. His opponent has defeated him, as he is not able to get up.



photo by Megan Richmond





photo by Krisen Gieszkiewicz

As a target, sophomore Brittini Chambers holds up a kicking pad for her partner. This technique is used to help the students develop and master their aim and control.



photo by Erica Rodriguez

## WHAT IS YOUR BEST ACHIEVEMENT



"It would have to be when I completed my training for brown belt. My goal is to have my black belt by the end of senior year."

**CODY DREES JUNIOR**

"So far my orange belt. My future goals include getting my green belt this year."



**RICARDO PRICE FRESHMAN**



"I can pull off a thunder kick. My number one goal is to achieve a black belt."

**DAVID MONTENEGRO JUNIOR**



photo by Erica Rodriguez



photo by Megan Richmond

In a fighting position, freshman Sarah Hamang is preparing herself against her opponent. This stance enables her to attack or defend with either hand or foot.



Formed in a pretzel sophomore Michael Benjamin is stretching. It is important to warm up the muscles before practice to reduce the risk of injury and become more flexible.





# LEARNING TO be a marine

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE GREER

Here at Portage High School, we are presented with the ROTC program, which stands for Reserves Officers Training Corps. Our specific program here is led up by Marine officers that teach students respect and discipline. "ROTC has educated me in leadership, self-esteem, self-discipline, and respect for others," said Freshman Joseph Di Cicco.

The Marine officers have around 50 students per class to teach each and every day. Students join ROTC for many different reasons. They can sign up at anytime of the year and have it for as many terms as they would like to be in it. "I joined ROTC to try something new and both of my grandfathers were in the military," said junior Amanda Zaragoza.

Major Johnston and other Marine officers show the students what being in the Marine Corps would actually be like if they decide to join after high school. They literally treat students who join ROTC like they are in the Marines.

"ROTC has taught me about respect and about what's going on in the world today, like the war in Iraq," said freshman Vanessa Reyes. About once a week, mainly on

Fridays, students are told to wear their uniforms to school and be ready for inspection when they get to class. Inspection is not taken lightly at all by the officers.

"To get ready for inspection I have to iron my uniform, polish my boots, brass check for small flaws to fix, and shave my hair," said Freshman Logan Cloyd.

Some students like wearing their uniforms to school, while others do not. There are many different reasons people like wearing their outfits. One reason is that their uniform shows off their rank, because all the uniforms are different and unique. You could be a private, a sergeant, and eventually lieutenant sergeants.

"I like wearing my uniform to school, because I feel proud for honoring our fallen soldiers," said senior Jami Williams.

ROTC works out during school hours and learn certain life skills yet they don't just do things during school hours. They also participate in many other activities.

"ROTC participates in civic services, selling tickets at games, cleaning up parking lots, activities such as car washes, and holiday parties," said sophomore Kayla Tytko.



Online sophomore Michael Locke researches for a paper that he has to write for class. Locke found great resources on the various websites that will help him.

At ACES, the JROTC marched down the halls showing their pride for our school and nation. They held our nation's flag up high to symbolize honor and loyalty to all.







While walking during the homecoming parade, JROTC showed their spirit and pride by carrying their flag to the crowd. The crowd stood up and clapped as they walked by.

As the homecoming parade commences, JROTC showed their spirit and pride by carrying their flag. The crowd is amazed which forced them to stand up and salute towards soldiers.



Photo by Stephanie Greer



Photo by Stephanie Greer



## DO YOU LIKE WEARING YOUR UNIFORM TO SCHOOL?



"I feel very proud and privileged to wear it to school."

**BRANDI RANCE JUNIOR**

"A lot of the time you get laughed at, but it gives you a feeling of superiority."

**ASHLEY WHELAN FRESHMAN**



"I am proud to wear it to school. It shows I'm doing something worthwhile to me."

**CATHERINE TILLOTTS SENIOR**



The block 3 class waits and listens while their scores are read from a previous test. All members hope that their hard work paid off with a great score.

Students of JROTC listen intently to Major Johnston while he teaches them about the Marine Corps. Students know to pay close attention to him.



## WHAT IS THE BEST THING THAT HAPPENED THIS YEAR

"The best thing that happened this year is that we finally got new uniforms, because we really needed them!"

—JOHN TAYLOR, JUNIOR



## STUDENTS BAND TOGETHER

★ **STORY BY STEPHANIE GREY**

Here at Portage High School we have the Symphonic Band program that is lead up by Mr.

Symer and Concert Band, which is conducted by Mr. Timmerman. It is filled with students that want to learn and who love to play their instruments. Concert Band is first block, which is consisted mainly of freshman through juniors while symphonic band is second block and is made up of juniors and seniors.

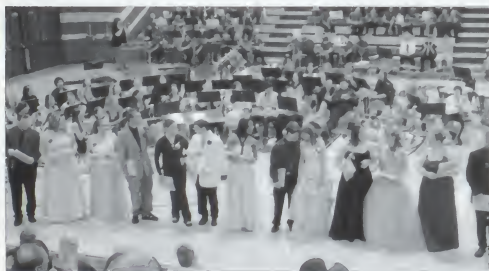
"My band is hard working, patient, which takes skills and sanity to handle certain things, and it is fun," said Senior Joshua Farley.

A lot of students that are in symphonic band are ready after high school to become professional musicians if they so desire to. Of course not

everyone takes up the trades they learn in symphonic band after they get out of school. For some people playing an instrument is just a fun past time for them.

"I plan to be a music teacher after high school and I will be continuing my studies at Butler University," said senior Jeremy Bucy.

Students that are in symphonic band have most likely been playing their instruments for around 6 years maybe more, maybe less. They practice very hard in school and out of school. At practices students rehearse music, have contests, work on pieces, and do what they think they need to do. All of them work hard and are very dedicated to what they do and how they play.



At the band festival seniors received awards for various events. Most of them received awards for all their hard work.



Drums are a specialty to freshman, Alex Gainer who has been playing the drums for awhile. He has been playing them for years and enjoys them greatly!





Trumpets, saxophones, and flute players alike join together to make beautiful music. Their harmonies blend great together on certain songs only the teacher would know.

While Mr. Robert Symer instructed the all willing jazz band they played their hearts out. It seemed that all practices had prepared them.

photos by: Kelley Yudd



At the band festival Mr. Michael DePasquale conducted his students through various songs. He is a great leader.

Together Seniors Timothy Slotton and Aimee Bass danced while the band played. By the end of the night they had mastered it.



New to the club,  
freshman  
Thomas Mathis  
watches other  
students. This is  
the first time  
Mathis has  
played in the  
guitar club.

While watching  
other members,  
freshman Timothy  
Standersku  
concentrates on  
the tune. Paying  
close attention to  
the movement of  
his fingers



Frustrated,  
sophomore  
Stephanie  
Beam looks  
over her sheet  
music. It can  
be very  
discouraging  
not being able  
to get the  
music right.







Determined to get the song accurate, junior Erin Wang places her fingers on just the right chords to get the perfect harmony. Wang loves to play the guitar in her spare time.

## PLAYING A NEW KIND OF MUSIC

STORY BY ERIN WANG

A rather new addition to our high school this year is the Acoustic Latin Guitar Club. This club is organized by Mrs. Rodea whom helps students learn about the guitar, and teaches them how to play music by different composers.

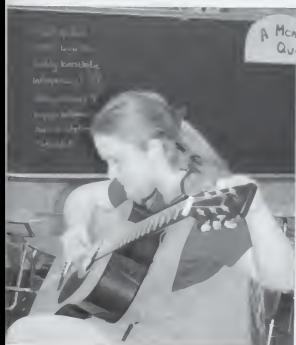
"We play both new and old Latin songs and we also learn different kinds of melodies," stated sophomore Nathan Beal. Both beginner and advanced guitar players were welcomed to the club. There were also a few members who learned to play the guitar at the club.

Freshman

Thomas Mathis stated, "I have been playing the guitar for 9 years. I also play the Electric Guitar, which was very hard to learn."

Students not only get to learn how to improve their guitar skills, and taught how to play new music, but they also acquire skills that are very helpful outside Acoustic Latin Guitar Club.

"This club is really awesome, it has taught me so much. One main thing that I have learned through this club was the importance of responsibility. Freshman Thomas Mathis addressed.



In order to start playing, sophomore Felicia Hendricks tunes her guitar. Tuning a guitar is one of the most important things to do.

With his attention on the teacher, freshman Thomas Mathis makes sure he is playing the right chords. Most learn to play a song by visual learning.



# MARCHING WITH SPIRIT

STORY BY JESSIE LOJUNT

Friday night the lights turn on, and the crowd starts filing through the gates with anticipation of entertainment and victory. The excitement of a football game would not be complete without the pounding of our school spirited Indian drum. This is provided to us by the greatly accomplished Marching Indians.

The marching band that is conducted under Mr. Depasquale and Mr. Timmerman performs at every home football game. They lead the way before the game and during half time. Also, they occasionally play during the game, when the team is doing an awesome job out on the field to get the crowd pumped up. Each of these talented instructors not only helps students learn different types of music, they also teach them how to have discipline, and show school spirit.

It has been 15 years since the band has had new uniforms. This year they finally got them. The uniforms were old and didn't fit the students very well. The new attire is more fitting and looks a lot nicer. Funding from the Portage Music Boosters and the school paid for them. This improvement of outfit gave the band a new look to match their music.

"I like the new uniforms because they are more form-fitting and don't make us look huge. Also, they just look a lot better," stated junior Astley Sandlin. Long practice dedication is essential if you plan

on playing in the marching band. Students memorize music; learn formations, and marching skills. They practice for three hours, two days a week. Practice takes place outside on the grass behind the football field.

"It's tough when we practice because it's usually cold outside and it takes a long time to get formations together." Said junior Brittney Bennett.

The Marching Indians not only play at football games but they also do a few local performances during holiday parades, such as the Fourth of July parade. This is a big performance for the band.

Another performance is during homecoming. Competing is another activity that marching band does. The band has competed three times this year. They competed once at Penn High School and twice at Concorde High School. They do not get places for their accomplishments, but they do get scores that show how well they performed.

"Competing is fun, but it takes a lot of work to get everything together. I think the best thing about it is getting to hear the other bands out there play," said sophomore, Jonathan Guerrero.

The band also has a color guard to add to the festivities of the music. In color guard, students twirl and dance with multicolored flags. Just like playing music, this activity takes a lot of hard work and practice. The color guard also performs at football games and special events with the band.

"I joined color guard because it's pretty and



Photo by: Katie Batista

I have fun with everyone," stated sophomore Lauren Konyk. Being part of the Marching Indians to some is like having a second family. This is because of the amount of time and effort spent with other peers brings them close together. Students find friendship, good times, and appreciation of something they love to do.

Concentration is a prime element. Sophomore Chris Frechette shows off his drumming skills at halftime. Many spectators watched as the band performed.

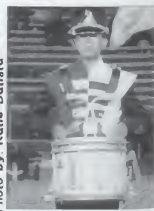


Photo by: Katie Batista



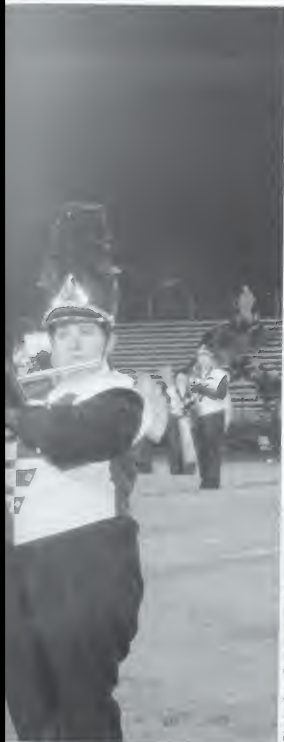


Photo by: Jessica Bolint

In perfect formation, freshman Maerose, Siroky performs during half time. While playing each member awaits with anticipation for the next beat to initiate a change in position.

## WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WATCHING BAND



**"The best thing is being able to get into all the games we perform at for free."**

BRIITANY BONNETT JUNIOR

"I like hanging out with all my friends, the parties, and the long distance competitions."

**NICK KOZICK JUNIOR**



"In color guard getting to learn routines is a lot of fun, also the flags are pretty."



Photo By: Ashley Jalovecky



Photo by: Ashley Jatovecky

To honor the academic teams, jazz band members played songs in the commons. Junior Jared Blatsioris, sophomores Amanda Bridges, Jonathon Guerrero, and Alysha Bingham are under the direction of band teacher Mr. Robert Symer.

With eight years of performing, it seemed only natural for Kraig Kmiolek, to join the pep band. He is playing an electric Zeta stand-up bass. He also plays the regular bass in orchestra class.

Magnificent flute playing during a basketball game is done by sophomore Amy Bell and junior Kristin Coffey. They bring melody and soul to every home game there is.





When playing at an orchestra one should always keep their concentration under the pressure. Freshman Samuel Fazekas tries his best to watch the concertmaster and keep his eyes on his music so that he doesn't lose his place in the song.

Each year the orchestra tries to do something special for their concert. At the annual holiday concert Gerri and Kathy Kotyuk were the special narration guests who read the story of "The Night Before Christmas" while the orchestra played the accompanying part.

Photo by Michael Anderson



## WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR INSTRUMENT

"I picked the bass because I'm a pretty big guy and I needed a big instrument. It's a lot of fun and it is also challenging to play."

**RYAN FOLEY, P. FRESHMAN**

"I didn't like the violin because it was too high, and the bass was too big, so I tried the cello and it was just right."

**ANDY DEFRIO, P. FRESHMAN**

"I picked the viola because I loved the sound. It had a rich deep sound and that is why I wanted to play it."

**THOMAS AJLOE, FRESHMAN**





Photo by Megan Richmond

After one the orchestra concerts the students decided to have a dance party in the parking lot. Junior Craig Kniotek danced the night away to the music coming from senior Erica Snieznik's car. The students are very close and usually do something together as a group after a concert or big event.

# a SCHOOL Year OF FIRSTS

Story by Megan Richmond

When you are in orchestra, you never know what Mrs. Carrie Carlson is going to throw at you, and this year she threw more curve balls than the students could count. The orchestra participated and received a first in their first jazz competition, they had many run-out concerts this year, and the orchestra even received a "With Distinction" sticker to add to their first place plaque that they won this year.

"It was a lot of fun being able to write my and perform my own solo for the competition" Says junior Katie Moehl. One element of the competition was an improvisation section where the students had to write their own solos. This was the first time that any orchestra at Portage High School ever competed in this competition and the symphonic orchestra exceed their own expectations and received a first place.

On top of their regular concerts and competitions, the orchestra also had many

run out concerts this year.

"It is really fun because we are able to go out and play for the community," Says junior Randi Stone. "It is nice to know that care enough to have us play for them."

Around the holidays they went to some local businesses and played Christmas carols.

"I am so proud of the kids," States Mrs. Carlson "There is no other plaque in the room that has this sticker on it so it is truly an honor." This sticker is an award that means that the Portage High School Orchestra placed higher than any other orchestra, for organizational contest, in the state. This is the first time in all of the years that the orchestra has competed in this competition, that the orchestra has received this award. The students were all very excited about this award and hope that they can win it again next year.



Photo by Megan Richmond

Many students in orchestra play more than one music class. For sophomore Danielle Sommers she plays both the string bass, piano and is a member of the school choir. Sommers also composes and sings her own music.

After weeks of hard work, the orchestra students finally received a "free day". Some students choose to play cards or just talk to their friends but Junior Terence Danapas decided that he would use his free time to catch up on some sleep.



Photo by Megan Richmond



For the first time in years, the Zeta instruments were brought out for festival. The instruments were used on Charlie Daniel's 'Devil Went Down to Georgia' in which senior Erica Banetznik played the first violin part. This was Erica's last time playing the Zetas at Portage High School.

Zeta festival is one of the hardest concerts that the orchestra can prepare for. It can be very hard to lead yourself over the other players, but juniors Stephanie Coffman and Brandon Bitter try to make the best of it. This will be their last Zeta festival, since seniors do not participate in it.



PHOTO BY BECKEN REYNOLD



PHOTO BY BECKEN REYNOLD



PHOTO BY BECKEN REYNOLD

For the annual end of the year festival, the students must stay after school and help set up. Junior Alycia Laboy and senior Steven Schiltz prepare to take down to the gym for the performance later that night.

Every year, the orchestra prepares music to perform for the annual organizational contest, which is held in Munster. Seniors Chris Bolint, Jana Zervos, and Timothy Statton admire the first place gold plaque that the class won this year.



PHOTO BY BECKEN REYNOLD





## WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN ORCHESTRA



"I remember my Grandma listening and watching Andre Rieu on TV and he was amazing and I wanted to be as good as him. My passion is the cello, but I love the violin too."

**TIMOTHY THOMPSON FRESHMAN**

"I loved playing in middle school and a lot of my friends were in orchestra so I decided that I would continue to play in high school."



**MEGAN MARTIN SENIOR**

"My cousin inspired me. He is studying to be an orchestra teacher and I remember telling him when I was seven that I was going to be better than him."

**REBECCA MOORE SENIORS**



Although festival is over, the seniors in orchestra still have to prepare one final piece to play on their last day of school. Senior Anastasia Pappadonich looks over the music that the seniors decided to play. Their selections included "Once Upon A December" from the movie Anastasia.



PHOTO BY REBECCA MOORE



PHOTO BY REBECCA MOORE



PHOTO BY REBECCA MOORE

At this year's Halloween concert, freshman Megan Rowden dressed up like a cat. The costumes this year consisted of a blin, an Olympic gymnast, Jesus, a doll named Barbie and many more. All of the costumes were creative, and different in their own unique way.

This year's fall concert was much different than previous years. This was the first year that the orchestra students were allowed to dress up in a Halloween costume. Sophomores Andrea Fuentes and Sophia Coleman (along with senior Heather Hulgard while waiting for their turn to perform.



# CHORALERS

## MORE THAN THE EXPECTED

STORY BY KYLE GARDNER

The Portage High School Choraliers is an organization in which students dance and sing at special occasions and also at competitions. The Choralier girls are all in some form of choir here at PHS.

Although this year the group only consists of girls, it has had gentlemen in the past.

"It would probably be a lot better if there were also guys in the group, we would be able to do a lot more dance moves and songs if we had guys in our group." Junior Brittany Williams addressed.

There are several leaders of the Choraliers. Each girl gives a certain enthusiasm to the group.

"I feel that Shannon and Holly are the leaders of the group because they keep us on task at every practice and competition." Freshman Kylie Beaudreau stated.

Each girl has their own way to prepare for a show. Voice-overs are held before the show in order to get each and every lady in tune.

"My favorite tradition or exercise that we do is Choralier Kisses, MUAHH!" Sophomore Danielle Sommers explained.

This year has been outstanding for the girls. Moments of drama and excitement drew the girls closer throughout the year.

While clapping for other members, freshman Brittany Evola flashes a big smile. Evola enjoyed the 2005 group.



Heads rolling, senior Shannon Stutler leads the group in the dance. Freshman Melissa Hale concentrates on her moves.



After their hard work and dedication, the choraliers performed at festival. Each girl struck one last pose to end the night.







At the pre-contest choir concert, chordaliers performed their number "Fever." The number was a great hit to end the night.

Along with fellow choir members, the girls bid farewell to the seniors. The seniors will be missed greatly next year.



## WHEN AND WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN



"I decided in sixth grade. I loved to sing and dance, and I looked up to people in it at the time."

**KRISTIN FEDOR, SENIOR**

"I always wanted to be in the group ever since I was in middle school."



**DANNY LERNER, SENIOR**

"I really love dancing, and I knew that this would be the thing for me!"

**DANNY LERNER, SENIOR**



With great enthusiasm, seniors Samantha Newbeck and Lingenfelter lead the group. Both girls have been in chordaliers through high school.

Smiles spread across her face, sophomore Kylie Beaudreau sings with her fellow members. Beaudreau is a key essential to the group.



By captivating the audience with her solo, senior Samantha Lingenfelter sang proudly from her hymn book. Solitary on stage she wowed everyone with her magnificent voice.

# SING IT TO THE CHOIR

Story by Genevieve Annap

Every year girls glee always sings strong and proud, with everybody enjoying every ounce of blissful sound that comes out of all of the girls' mouths. Usually choir has an assortment of boys and girls to offer different tones and pitches to the music. This year though it's all about the girls.

"It's all about girly music and having fun, not many classes are just about girls," states junior Monica Goheen.

The girls love dominating and having the class and choir to themselves. The girls say it brings them closer together and now all of them have a special bond. Although the in class time is a blast they get down to business

When it comes time to sing their hearts out at the concerts they do.

"The Christmas Show by far, because I love the music and it was the best concert that I think we have done all year," says senior Stephanie Stasi.

All of the girls have different ways and techniques of warming up and relaxing before a concert show.

"I just sit back and relax before a concert, I try and have fun and take my mind off of everything," states junior Sarah Mustafa.

All of the girls love to sing and all of them have fun doing it. It is a great opportunity for all of the girls to have fun and expand their vocal skills.

photos by Kelley Yudd



In perfect sync, five choir girls sing their hearts out. The girls have practiced their numbers numerous times throughout the year, ensuring it will be excellent.

While singing to the piano, senior Holly Benz belts out her melodious song. Benz has been in choir throughout her four years of high school.







## WHAT DO YOU DO TO GET READY FOR A CONCERT



"I just have fun, relax, and after the concert we usually all go out together."

**MONICA GONSEN JUNIOR**

"I practice, sing to myself, and try to relax before I go on the stage."

**SARAH MUSTARD JUNIOR**



"I practice singing the high notes, because I got to sing them in our senior song."

**JENNIFER VARTE SENIOR**



The girls of choir gave their best to the audience. The ten girls gave a great performance all around.



While the teacher played the piano, the girls' choir gave it their all to keep up with her. It seemed that they were able to keep up quite well.



While singing to their song, the choir girls stay with the tune. The girls practice throughout the year to ensure an outstanding concert show.



# COMMUNITY AND FAMILY NEEDS

STORY BY NIKITA BROWNE '03



Many people may not know exactly what the FCCLA is because it is such a new activity at Portage High School. The members are starting to grow bigger and bigger as time goes on.

"The FCCLA is the Family Career and Community Leaders of America. It is a good program for anyone that enjoys cooking and likes to help people," stated freshman Brittany Boyd.

The FCCLA has meetings every two weeks. They meet to discuss what events they will be doing next.

"I decided to join the FCCLA for many reasons. I like it because we get to eat and make food all the time. My favorite was making the cookie dough because it was so good," said Brittany Boyd.

The FCCLA is an activity for any and everyone who enjoys learning about eating and cooking. You also get to help people by learning about proper nutrition.

Junior Kate Mills stated, "I really enjoy this program because I feel like a part of something. There is tons of games and food. It is also tons of fun for everyone."

The FCCLA does many activities at every meeting and they play many different games to learn about who they are. They also learn about how they can help the community.

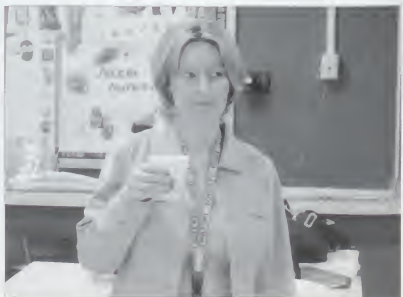
"My favorite part is all the good laughs we share. We are all open with each other and we can talk about the different things that are going on in our community and learn how to make it better for everyone," said Kate Mills.

All in all, the FCCLA is a great organization for anyone interested in learning about their families and their community and how it all works together. It will help you to better understand your surroundings here at Portage High School.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF FCCLA?

"I like helping people and learning a lot of fun and new things about the community."

SHERRI JOHNSON, JUNIOR



The FCCLA is fun for everyone interested in helping people. Junior Kate Mills is thinking of ideas to help the community.

FCCLA instructor Mrs. Gannon is also one of the leaders of the FCCLA and is a teacher here at PHS. She enjoys helping the members learn about family and community needs for future references.

Photo by: Kella Judd





The members of FCCLA enjoy making and trying many types of food. Freshmen Brittany Boyd and Britanni Cain make some food during a meeting.

Teacher Mrs. Chalmers is also one of the leaders of the FCCLA. Mrs. Chalmers helps the members make food at some of the different meetings they have.



Everybody in the FCCLA takes part in all activities. Junior Korea Smith helps eat cookies that the FCCLA had made to sample.



# Index

## A

Abram, Christine 154, 201  
 Abram, Christopher 164  
 Abromitis, Garrett 164  
 Ackermann, Ashley 154  
 Adair, Andrew 91, 120, 153  
 Adams, Leah 174  
 Adams, Scott 154  
 Adkins, Joshua 138  
 Ahlborn, Jacob 18, 103, 154  
 Ahlborn, Rita 174  
 Aimone, Joseph 138  
 Aimone, Kim 55  
 Aimutis, Jason 153  
 Akins, Jacob 153  
 Alaniz, Rene 154  
 Albee, Thomas 174, 242  
 Albrecht, Amber 154  
 Alcantara, Radley 26, 51, 130,  
 193, 218, 219  
 Alexander, Courtney 174  
 Alexander, Monika 153  
 Alexandra 125  
 Alicea, Manuel 153  
 Allen, Alicia 153  
 Allen, David 129, 138  
 Alley, Samantha 126  
 Alliss, Richard 153  
 Allmandinger, Christopher 50,  
 154  
 Alonzo, Daniel 138  
 Alvarez, Fernando 174

Alvey, Katlin 164  
 Amore, Christopher 174  
 Amore, Samantha 154  
 Amstein, Andrea 164  
 Andersen, Peter 174  
 Anderson, Darrell 73, 174  
 Anderson, Jacob 51, 154  
 Anderson, Laura 130  
 Anderson, Rochelle 154  
 Andrew, William Stearns 172  
 Andrews, Catherine 132, 138  
 Andrews, Danyelle 164  
 Andrews, Derek 153  
 Anekwe, Jacinta 7, 153, 199  
 Angarola, Bianca 171  
 Anne, Brie Back 217  
 Arndt, Richard 154  
 Arnold, Audrey 164  
 Arnold, Genevieve 138, 216,  
 217, 231  
 Arnold, Michelle 48  
 Arteaga, Edward 50, 174  
 Arvidson, Krista 153  
 Arwood, Victoria 164  
 Ashford, Rhonda 174  
 Austin, Samantha 164  
 Avina, Daniel 174  
 Ayala, Nicole 164  
 Ayers, Brian 153  
 Ayers, Brittany 166

## B

Baccarelli, Natalia 164  
 Bailey, Jessica 153  
 Bailey, Jordan 51, 164  
 Bailey, Robert 18, 19, 113,

134, 153, 206, 219, 220  
 Bailey, Robin 153  
 Bailey, Ross 164  
 Bain, Stephen 164  
 Balding, Christopher 153  
 Ball, Brittany 138  
 Ball, Shauna 174  
 Banic, Brittany 138, 149, 204,  
 207, 208, 222  
 Banic, Holly 164  
 Bannister, Jessica 154  
 Bardsley, James 138  
 Barker, Herbie 164  
 Barker, Zachary 174  
 Barlow, Heather 164  
 Barnas, Robert 164  
 Barnes, Aaron 154  
 Barnes, Katherine 154  
 Barnett, Brittany 154  
 Barnett, Brittney 174  
 Barnum, Jackie 138  
 Barnum, Jacqueline 29, 83,  
 115, 209  
 Barrett, Amanda 174  
 Barrett, Jessica 164  
 Bartley, Christopher 138  
 Bartolac, Ashley 164  
 Bartz, Caitlin 94, 138, 208  
 Basile, Natacha 154  
 Bass, Aimee 153, 208, 237  
 Bassett, Gabrielle 153  
 Bateman, Ivan 174  
 Bates, Amanda 174  
 Batista, Katherine 100, 104,  
 154, 228  
 Batista, Kathryn 230  
 Battreal, Buster 56  
 Battreal, Buster 57, 153  
 Battreal, James 26  
 Bauer, Meghan 164  
 Bauer, Ryan 138  
 Beach, Courtney 174  
 Beal, Melissa 153  
 Beal, Nathan 164, 239  
 Beal, Nicole 138, 201





- Beam, Stephanie 238  
 Bean, Bracy 174  
 Bearss, Leah 9, 80, 81, 138, 209  
 Bearss, Mara 174  
 Beaudreau, Kylie 131, 164, 225, 246, 247  
 Becker, Loudan 47, 174  
 Bedford, Jessica 164  
 Beers, Aaron 60  
 Beers, Brittney 164  
 Beeson, Aaron 154  
 Bell, Amy 164, 241  
 Beller, Lauren 139  
 Belleville 118  
 Belleville, Carol 76, 174  
 Belmont, Jasmine 174  
 Bement, Brandon 153  
 Benjamin, Michael 164, 232, 233  
 Bennett, Brittany 154, 241  
 Bennett, Brittnay 240  
 Bennett, Robert 174  
 Benz, Holly 131, 139, 193, 247, 248  
 Bergner, Casey 164  
 Bergner, Nolan 154  
 Berman, Britnee 164, 210  
 Bermes, Brett 113, 115, 153  
 Bermes, Brooks 164  
 Bernardi, Dino 164  
 Berquist, Noah 164  
 Berryman, Ambrea 139  
 Berryman, Trisha 83, 164  
 Bevil, Brian 174  
 Bewley, Thomas 73  
 Biby, Dan 27, 116, 193  
 Biby, Daniel 90, 113, 114, 120, 135, 139, 208, 209  
 Biddle, Chad 41, 130  
 Biggs, Carrie 174  
 Biggs, Scott 154  
 Biller, Brandon 154, 193, 244  
 Bingham, Alysha 241  
 Blackwell, Christina 21, 154  
 Blair, Kyle 174  
 Blake, Jeremy 174  
 Blakely, Amy 75, 174  
 Blanton, Brian 135, 153  
 Blanton, Jessica 139, 214  
 Blatsioris, Jared 154  
 Blejski, Rachel 153  
 Blonski, Ashley 154  
 Bloom, Samuel 174  
 Boch, Megan 139  
 Bodish, Samantha 154  
 Bodnar, Michael 154  
 Boer, Jessica 139  
 Boggess, Erica 165  
 Bohling, Anthony 23  
 Bohling, Zachary 70, 135, 153  
 Boldin, Amanda 165  
 Bolen, Amber 153  
 Bolen, Rachael 165  
 Bolinger, Richelle 174  
 Bolint, Chris 103, 118, 244  
 Bolint, Christopher 9, 14, 100, 103, 105, 115, 120, 139, 223  
 Bolint, Jessica 106, 219  
 Bonia, Erica 174  
 Bool, Angela 154  
 Bool, Sarah 165  
 Bordelon, Tammi 165  
 Bornheim, Kaylyn 153  
 Borowski, Robert 165  
 Boskey, Laura 153  
 Bottorff, Aimee 165  
 Boucher, Cat 225  
 Boucher, Catlyn 165  
 Bowen, Brittany 153  
 Bowen, Melissa 165  
 Bowen, Tara 165  
 Bowen, Whitney 154  
 Bowles, Brian 165  
 Bowman, Stephanie 74, 174, 178  
 Bowman, Whitney 154  
 Boyd, Brittany 250, 251  
 Boyer, Thomas 165  
 Boykin, Jacob 155  
 Braden, Megan 174  
 Braden, Paul 155  
 Braner, Tae 174  
 Brantley, Deanna 174  
 Braun, Gene 139  
 Brennan, Emily 48, 174  
 Brennan, Steven 153  
 Brewer, Jacoby 153  
 Bridges, Amanda 165, 241  
 Brink, Ehric 139  
 Bristo, Bryon 139  
 Brittini 172  
 Brooks, Kayla 155  
 Brown, Antoine 78, 153  
 Brown, Betsy 165, 214  
 Brown, Elizabeth 174  
 Brown, Erica 139  
 Brown, Joshua 155  
 Brown, Steven 165  
 Brown, William 139  
 Brubaker, Dennis 139  
 Bruhn, Jeannie 153  
 Brunner, Tiffany 155  
 Brutout, Michael 174  
 Bryan, Casey 165  
 Bryan, Jacob 93  
 Bryan, Jake 56, 57  
 Bryan, Kasey 81  
 Bryan, Kenneth 153  
 Bryan, Stephanie 153  
 Bryant, Joshua 174  
 Brys, Jeanne 165  
 Bucy, Jeffery 153  
 Bucy, Jeremy 153  
 Bucy, Jeremy 236  
 Buczek, Andrew 139  
 Burbee, Lindsay 175  
 Burch, Amanda 229  
 Burge, Samantha 153  
 Burke, Michael 71, 155  
 Burr, Kelsey 165  
 Burris, Magen 165  
 Bustos, Adrian 155  
 Bustos, Andrew 72, 165



Butala, Tonya 175  
 Butera, Brandon 165  
 Butera, Ryan 139  
 Butler, Natalie 165  
 Buzea, Brittany 54, 55, 175

# C

Cabanas, Nicholas 153  
 Cain, Brandi 175  
 Cain, Brittani 251  
 Cain, Cassandra 165  
 Cain, Cassie 44  
 Caluag, Reynaldo 139  
 Caluag, Theresa 49, 81, 165  
 Caluag, Tiffany 81, 165  
 Camacho, Angelica 175  
 Camery, Chris 24  
 Camery, Christopher 155  
 Campbell 92  
 Campbell, Amanda 224  
 Campbell, Brandon 18, 155  
 Campbell, Jennifer 175  
 Campbell, Kari 30, 95, 139  
 Canner, Kelly 13, 139, 209  
 Cannon, Sarah 165  
 Capron, Daniel 175  
 Caraballo, Jasmine 196, 205  
 Caraballo, jasmine 219  
 Carattini, Carolina 175  
 Cardenas, Nicholas 175  
 Cardwell, Graham 175  
 Carithers, Danielle 165  
 Carlotta, Justine 165  
 Carnell, Andreanna 175  
 Carns, Ashley 165, 171

Carol 118  
 Carpenter, John 175  
 Carrasco, Jessica 155, 163  
 Carroll, Gary III 139  
 Carroll, Shannon 165  
 Carrou, Shannon 166  
 Carson, Jessica 175  
 Cary, Megan 155  
 Casper, Lisa 153  
 Castillo, Corrine 165  
 Castrejon, Michelle 165  
 Cates, Sarah 155  
 Catlin, Nicole 34, 35, 52, 139, 147  
 Catlin, Priscilla 156  
 Cepolski, Ryan 153  
 Cercelius, Robert 121  
 Chabes, Javier 165  
 Chaddock, Stevie 101, 139, 153, 208  
 Chaja, Amber 155  
 Chambers 172  
 Chambers, Brittni 165, 233  
 Chancey, Sharise 153  
 Chancey, Shiela 153  
 Charlson, Josh 62  
 Charlson, Joshua 63  
 Chavez, Alejandro 139, 203  
 Chavez, Victoria 175  
 Cherepko, Dominic 155  
 Cherry, Scott 165  
 Childers, Samantha 165  
 Christian, Stefanie 77  
 Christian, Steffane 76, 175  
 Christman, Kelly 165  
 Christman, Rachel 165  
 Christopher 135  
 Cieszkiewicz, Kari 165  
 Cieszkiewicz, Krisan 11, 139, 214, 215, 231  
 Clarida, Autumn 175  
 Clarissa, Vera Wilkins 182  
 Clark, Kristen 153  
 Clark, Nicole 165  
 Clark, Stephen 175

Claxton, Casey 155  
 Clem, Kristin 175  
 Cletcher, Alisha 155  
 Clowers, April 155  
 Cloyd, Logan 175, 234  
 Coban, Andrew 58, 165  
 Cocco, Anthony 175  
 Cochran, Kayla 153  
 Cody, Adam 155  
 Coffey, Cristen 155, 193, 194  
 Coffey, Kristin 241  
 Coffman, Douglas 175  
 Coffman, Stephanie 155, 244  
 Colburn, Veronica 139  
 Cole, Franklin 165  
 Cole, Joseph 155  
 Coleman, Grace 175  
 Coleman, Sophia 20, 165, 245  
 Collazo, Eli 32, 135, 153  
 Collazo, Jose 32, 153  
 Collins, Allie 175  
 Collins, Justin 139  
 Colon, Samantha 165  
 Colunga, Erick 155  
 Colville, Randi 139  
 Colvin, Andrew 153  
 Compass, Kevin 175  
 Conley, Darren 175  
 Conley, Krista 165  
 Conover, Sadye 153  
 Conroy, Andrea 175  
 Conroy, Kayla 139, 215  
 Cook, Adam 153  
 Cook, Brent 33, 100, 155  
 Cook, Christopher 155  
 Cook, Timothy 165  
 Cooper, Sarah 155  
 Cooper, Tiffany 155  
 Coots, Natalie 175  
 Coppinger, Brianna 175  
 Cordova, Nathan 155  
 Corlett, Nolan 155  
 Corral, Yasmin 163, 197  
 Costa, Anthony 130, 155  
 Council, Brandon 153





Covell, Gabriel 155  
 Cowger, Phillip 102, 135, 153  
 Cox, Alyson 165  
 Cox, Jeremiah 165  
 Cox, Jessica 175  
 Cox, Kristen 165  
 Cox, Shawn 153  
 Craft, Ashley 153, 226  
 Craig, Joeline 155  
 Craig, Sarah 165  
 Craighead, Mary 194  
 Crandall, Jeremy 155  
 Crase, Rachel 175  
 Crecelius, Robert 139, 232  
 Creech, Cassandra 155  
 Creech, Christina 153  
 Creech, Jason 165  
 Creech, Robert 165  
 Creviston, Michaelleen 155  
 Crile, Chad 175  
 Crist, Alex 155  
 Crook, Kathryn 175  
 Crout, Kyle 175  
 Crowder, Cheryl 155  
 Crowder, Christopher 47, 175  
 Crowley, Erin 217  
 Croy, Beth 175  
 Crozier, Jacob 175  
 Cruse, Paul 155  
 Cruz, Joseph 165  
 Culp, Andrew 14, 230  
 Cunningham, Jeffrey 175, 182  
 Curiel, Chris 19  
 Curiel, Christopher 97, 113,  
 139, 218, 219  
 Curiel, Gregory 155  
 Curiel, Kathleen 175  
 Curran, Lauren 175  
 Currin, Morghan 175  
 Cutrel, Michelle 155  
 Czupryn, Amy 54, 175

# D

Dabu, Melissa 140  
 Daily, Alan 155  
 Daily, Teagan 165  
 Dallas, John Hesseltine 22  
 Dallas, Melanee 132, 134, 140,  
 218, 219  
 Damon, Steven 165  
 Danapas, Terrence 32, 155,  
 243  
 Danielewicz, Amy 140  
 Dault, Allison 155  
 Davenport, Katelyn 153  
 Davich, Buck 155  
 Davidson, Jessica 48, 165  
 Davies 170  
 Davies, Jeremy 18, 155  
 Davies, Tiffany 165, 175  
 Davis, Adam 165  
 Davis, Ashley 155, 158, 199,  
 211  
 Davis, Danyelle 155  
 Davis, Jordan 165  
 Davis, Lindsey 155, 222  
 Davis, Rebekah 155  
 Dawkins, Randall 122, 156,  
 158  
 De, Ben St Jean 62  
 De, Ben St. Jean 62  
 De, Benjamin St. Jean 62  
 De, Jennifer la Cruz 199  
 Dean, Kyle 113, 140  
 Deavers, Lyndsey 165  
 Dees, Angela 175  
 DeFlorio, Anna 242  
 DeFlorio, Anna 175  
 Degener, Keira 165  
 Dehnart, Cory 156  
 Delacruz, Jennifer 165  
 Delbert, Radley Alcantara 154  
 Deleon, Kristina 175  
 Delgado, Daniel 175  
 Delreal, Adriana 156  
 Delturco, Amy 175  
 Delturco, Brittany 165  
 Demaria, Tasha 156  
 Demmon, Mary 153  
 Demmon, Michael 153  
 DePriest, Staci 153  
 Derr, Edward 175  
 Deselles, Maribel 121  
 Dessauer, Cassandra 165  
 Destjean, Benjamin 156  
 Devaney, Kyle 90, 120, 153,  
 218, 219  
 Devaney, Stephan 156  
 Devore, Paige 175  
 Dexter, Cody 156, 162  
 Dexter, Jessie 165  
 DeYoung, Kristan 241  
 Deyoung, Kristan 165  
 Di, Joseph Cicco 234  
 Diamond, Mitchell 153  
 Diamond, Timothy 175  
 Diaz, Daniel 153  
 Diehl, Derek 165  
 Dienes, Danielle 140  
 Dienes, Jessica 165  
 Dietz, Mark 70  
 Dietz, Matthew 140  
 Dillin, Angelica 140  
 Disney, Jeffery 70  
 Disney, Michael 165  
 Disney, Mike 26  
 Dixon, Kevin 32, 33, 56, 97,  
 135, 140  
 Dixon, Shane 122, 124, 125,  
 156  
 Doan, Kyle 165  
 Doherty, Ryanne 31, 156  
 Dohner, Timothy 18, 19, 78,  
 90, 112, 140  
 Doll, William 24, 175





Domonkos, Stephen 156  
 Donner, Timothy 141  
 Donohue, Angela 153  
 Donohue, Anthony 165  
 Dougherty, Shauna 156  
 Dove, Krystle 140, 214  
 Dove, Nicholas 175  
 Doyle, Meghan 175  
 Dranchak, Andrew 22, 71, 135, 140  
 Dreckman, Mary 175  
 Drees, Cody 156, 233  
 Drees, Logan 175  
 Driver, Terry 175  
 Drozd, Kayla 175  
 Drury, Robert 175  
 Dubach, Jeffery 175  
 Duca, Ashlee 156  
 Duerr, Dezso 153  
 Dugger, Bradley 156  
 Dunning, Lauren 156  
 Duran, Monique 166  
 Durkin, Stefanie 153  
 Duron, Anthony 175  
 Duron, Felix 156  
 Dusard, Jennifer 175

## E

Earley, Amanda 166  
 Easter, Dora 166  
 Echoles, NuArielle 163  
 Echterling, Jessica 173  
 Edders, Kristian 153  
 Edmaiston, Khristopher 175  
 Edmonds, Ashley 6, 140  
 Edwards, Anthony 153

Edwards, Leroy 153  
 Edwards, Ryan 166  
 Efantis, Joseph 78, 175  
 Efantis, Tiffany 13, 93, 153  
 Ehlers, Shawn 175  
 Elkin, Jessica 156  
 Ellis, Kaitlin 166, 222  
 Ellis, Trent 166  
 Elsey, Kelly 140, 153  
 Engel, Adair 175  
 Engel, Jakob 175  
 Engel, Jared 27  
 Engel, Madison 175  
 Engel, Matt 32  
 Engel, Matthew 113, 140  
 Enstrom, Kris 32, 140  
 Enstrom, Kristopher 127  
 Epson, Jason 60, 61  
 Erickson, Gerald 156  
 Eriks, Matthew 85, 156  
 Erway, Megan 175  
 Erwin, Steven 166  
 Escabi, Andrew 175  
 Espinoza, Anthony 43, 134, 153  
 Esposito, Brittany 153, 156, 219  
 Evans, Albert 24  
 Evans, Chyanne 166  
 Evans, Jacklyn 166  
 Evans, Kenneth 25, 175  
 Evans, Kris 57  
 Evans, Kristopher 27, 156  
 Evans, Kyle 175  
 Evans, Stephanie 176  
 Evans, William 153  
 Evola, Brittany 176, 246  
 Evola, Stephen 153

## F

Fabian, Melanie 141  
 Fagan, Ryan 166  
 Fairchild, Ryan 166, 242  
 Falk, Lauren 166  
 Fannin, Anna 156  
 Farley, Joshua 46, 236  
 Farmer, Andrew 24, 166  
 Farmer, Andy 58  
 Farmer, Stephanie 176  
 Faulk, Lauren 77  
 Fazekas, Samuel 176, 242  
 Fedor, Aaron 166  
 Fedor, Kristan 130  
 Fedor, Kristin 103, 141, 209, 247  
 Feehan, Bradley 166  
 Feeney, Amanda 156, 219  
 Feliciano, Elizabeth 176, 216  
 Felker, Brittany 176  
 Felter, Sarah 156, 195, 200, 202  
 Ferguson, Megan 166  
 Fernandez, Alexandria 156  
 Ferris, Todd 176  
 Field, James 156  
 fielder, Brian 110  
 Fields, Ashley 141  
 Fields, Julie 166  
 Fifield, Matthew 156  
 Fink, Abby 156  
 Fink, Abigail 219  
 Fink, Bruce 176  
 Finnegan, Natalie 141  
 Fischer, John 47



Fischer, Mark 166  
 Flannery, James 78, 156  
 Fleming, Taylor 176  
 Fletcher, Jennifer 176  
 Fletter, Andrew 153  
 Flick, Jeremy 176  
 Flick, Joshua 176  
 Flohr, Benjamin 176  
 Floyd, Michelle 176  
 Foley, Brittany 176  
 Foley, Thomas 156  
 Ford, Aaron 166  
 Ford, Michael 153  
 Fortenberry, William 166  
 Foster, Andrew 176  
 Foster, Dustin 90, 111, 141, 226  
 Foster, Dustin, 101  
 Foye, Lauren 153  
 Foyteck, Kali 132, 153  
 Frahm, Jeanette 166  
 Frank, Christen 156  
 Frank, Kylie 156  
 Franklin, Rachell 176  
 Franklin, Tina 176  
 Franz, Daniel 166  
 Franz, Dustin 176  
 Frasure, Amanda 176  
 Fravel, Bryana 141  
 Frazier, Kimberly 157  
 Frechette, Chris 240  
 Frechette, Christopher 166  
 Frechette, Renee 176  
 Freeman, Shawna 157  
 Friday, Nicholas 166  
 Frye, Steven 153  
 Fuentes, Andrea 166, 245  
 Fuller, Amie 176  
 Fuller, Leslie 176  
 Fultz, Alyssa 166  
 Furgye, Jennifer 93, 141

# G

Gaboian, Gina 153  
 Gaboian, Vanessa 201  
 Gainer, Alex 236  
 Gainer, Joseph 157  
 Gaines, Corey 176  
 Gaines, Courtland 157  
 Gallegos, Alex 153  
 Gallion, Michael 166  
 Games, Tyler 176  
 Gandy, Brigitte 176  
 Gannon, Megan 166  
 Gannon, Shaun 14, 125, 146, 153, 219, 224, 227  
 Ganske, Ashley 157  
 Garcia, David 166  
 Garcia, Jason 157  
 Garcia, Nathan 176  
 Garibaldi, Isidoro 176  
 Garibay, Michael 166  
 Garner, Megan 166  
 Garner, Stephanie 157, 158, 202, 210  
 Garner, Zachary 176  
 Garza, Breanna 176  
 Garza, Justin 157  
 Garza, Melissa 176  
 Gaul, Sharon 153  
 Gazibara, Steven 166  
 Geary, James 7, 153  
 Geber, Barry 166  
 Gembala, Samantha 153, 200  
 Gentry, Amber 153  
 Gerber, Lindsay 166  
 Gerbick, Stephanie 176  
 Geske, Jonathan 176  
 Gettig, Amanda 176  
 Gibson, Dominique 153  
 Gibson, Kali 76, 157, 160  
 Gibson, Michelle 166  
 Gifford, Amy 166, 171  
 Gifford, Bobby 141  
 Gilbert, Brandon 157  
 Gilbert, Bryan 141  
 Gill, Brendan 166  
 Gill, Brittany 125, 142, 146, 219, 220  
 Gilmer, James 166  
 Giordano, Edward 166  
 Giorgi, Samantha 153  
 Girouard, Elizabeth 176  
 Glaser, Stephen 157  
 Glass, Madelyn 176  
 Glos, Courtney 55  
 Gobin, Benjamin 176  
 Gobin, Dakota 176  
 Goheen, Monica 248, 249  
 Goheen, Steven 166  
 Goin, Mallory 157  
 Golarz, Matthew 176  
 Golden, Andrew 176  
 Gomez, Sarah 77, 157  
 Gonzales, Brittany 166  
 Gonzalez, Ryan 153  
 Gonzalez, Sammie 166  
 Good, Tahana 153  
 Gorden, Brett 7, 166  
 Gore, Jacklyn 219  
 Gore, Jaclyn 157  
 Gore, James 176  
 Gore, Mallory 166  
 Goss, Raymond 10, 142  
 Gossett, Allison 62, 63, 157  
 Gossett, Eric 176  
 Gossett, Steven 153  
 Gottschlich, Christen 166  
 Graczyk, Gregory 153  
 Gramhofer, Sarah 153  
 Granillo, David 153  
 Grashel, Kenton 166



Grashel, Tayler 176  
 Graves, Garrett 176  
 Graves, Nolan 9, 142  
 Gray, Amanda 142  
 Green, Monica 153  
 Greer, Adam 176  
 Greer, Stephanie 8, 166, 231  
 Gregory, Chester 111  
 Griffin, Melanie 29, 166  
 Griffith, Samantha 69, 167  
 Grinder, Wendy 176  
 Grindey, Daniel 153  
 Grodetz, Amber 167  
 Guajardo, Bianca 167  
 Guerra, Emily 176  
 Guerrero 170  
 Guerrero, Alejandra 157  
 Guerrero, Jonathan 167, 240  
 Guerrero, Jonathon 241  
 Guffey, Jessica 142  
 Guglielmetti, Matthew 177  
 Guidarelli, Neal 153  
 Gurley, Samantha 157  
 Gurski, Roger 167  
 Gurski, Tiffany 153, 198  
 Gutierrez, Dave 26  
 Gutierrez, David 167  
 Gutierrez, Meagan 167  
 Guzman, Genesis 153

Halfmann, Jonathon 85, 153  
 Halko, Taylor 177  
 Hall, Ashlee 177  
 Hall, Jennifer 157, 224  
 Hallmen, Mark 149  
 Hallmen, Mark Jr. 142  
 Hamang, Mariah 177, 217  
 Hamang, Sara 104  
 Hamang, Sarah 177, 233  
 Hamann, Caroline 157, 198  
 Hamilton, Melinda 157  
 Hammond, Joseph 177  
 Hancock, Christina 153  
 Hand, Nathan 153  
 Hand, Patrick 153  
 Haner, Rachel 157  
 Hanlon, Michael 177  
 Hanna, Stephanie 157, 198  
 Hansen, Lisa 153  
 Hansen, Tiffany 202  
 Hanson, Tiffany 157  
 Hardesty, Shana 157  
 Hardison, Samuel 177  
 Hargarten, Kathleen 82, 167, 207  
 Harrington, Teri 142, 145, 219  
 Harris, Anthony 167  
 Harris, Brittany 167  
 Harris, James 177  
 Harris, Sarah 142  
 Harrison, Daniel 157  
 Harshman, Brittnee 177  
 Hart, Jordan 157  
 Hart, Kaylyn 177  
 Hatfield, Brandon 167  
 Hatfield, Jessica 142  
 Hatten, Brian 177  
 Hayes, Amanda 142  
 Hayward, Jessica 177  
 Hayworth, Sherri 250  
 Hazy, Michael 177  
 Healy, Dennis 177  
 Healy, Stephanie 157  
 Heck, Robert 157  
 Heckman, Charlotte 142

Heckman, Rachel 177  
 Hedger, Crystal 157  
 Heflin, Jessica 157  
 Hejna, Lindsay 177  
 Helmick, Taylor 167  
 Helpingstine, Matt 33  
 Helpingstine, Matthew 153  
 Hemry, Joseph 177  
 Hemry, Matthew 41, 73, 157  
 Hendricks, Felicia 167, 197, 210, 239  
 Hennessy, John 153  
 Henry, Anna 167  
 Henry, Josh 121  
 Henry, Joshua 153, 232  
 Hernandez, Alexander 14  
 Hernandez, Andrew 142, 153  
 Hernandez, Christine 81, 177  
 Hernandez, Gloria 53, 55, 80  
 Hernandez, Maria 157  
 Hernandez, Ruby 167  
 Herr, Crystal 153  
 Herrera, Amber 177  
 Herrman, Jillian 177  
 Hertl, Justin 167  
 Hess, Justin 142  
 Hess, Kyle 167  
 Hesseltine, John 43, 95, 153  
 Hester, Erick 177  
 Hettrick, Brie 101, 104, 105, 123, 124, 125, 153, 222  
 Hewitt, Rachael 157  
 Hickman, Kimberly 157  
 Hicks, Maria 177  
 Higgins, Adam 219  
 Higgins, Christopher 157  
 Hill, Elizabeth 167  
 Hill, John 177  
 Hill, Whitney 142, 208  
 Hilley, Austin 177  
 Hines, Tiffany 167  
 Hinojosa, David 90, 94, 113, 122, 125, 142, 206, 219, 223  
 Hoadrea, Jessika 177

# H

Hagan, Jacqueline 153  
 Hagan, Tara 157  
 Hale, Douglas 10, 142  
 Hale, Melissa 177, 246  
 Halfman, Steven 157



Hoak, Samantha 177  
 Hoak, Travis 167  
 Hobgood, Darrel 22  
 Hobgood, Paul 157, 219, 220  
 Hodges, Jessica 101, 107,  
     157, 219, 231  
 Hodges, Lauren 28, 177  
 Hodges, Meredith 177  
 Hohnneck, Kenneth 157  
 Hojnacki, Kateland 167  
 Hojnacki, Steven 78, 142  
 Hokenson, Lauren 63, 167  
 Holek, David 177  
 Holland, Richard 167  
 Holloway, Jeremy 177  
 Homan, Bradley 167  
 Honer, Alison 120  
 Hood, Stephanie 157, 200  
 Hoover, Christopher 157  
 Hopper, Lauren 177  
 Horner, Alison 45, 157  
 Horner, Blair 157  
 Horner, Cara 34, 92, 94, 95,  
     140, 142, 219  
 Horvath, Mary 153  
 Hostetler, Jeremy 153  
 Hostetler, Rebecca 153  
 Houser, Jessica 142  
 Hubbard, Peter 153  
 Huckaby, James 153  
 Hufgard, Heather 153, 245  
 Huizar, Ashley 167  
 Huizar, Jacqueline 167  
 Hulse, Ronell 156, 157  
 Hunter, Treona 177  
 Hussain, Tayler 157  
 Huston, Jacob 22, 23, 142  
 Hutchins, Alexander 177  
 Hutchins, Benjamin 177  
 Hyde, Jennifer 31, 177

# I

Ibrahim, Sanae 219  
 Imel, Lindsay 167  
 Imeson, Dusti 167  
 Ingram, Alyssa 157  
 Ingram, Nathan 177, 183  
 Irizarry, Eugene 153  
 Isaac, Kevin 167  
 Ivanovic, Marko 153  
 Ivey, Franklin 177  
 Ivey, Thomas 157

# J

Jackson, Leah 177  
 Jacobs, Christina 178  
 Jacobs, Jennifer 153  
 Jacobs, Kyle 10, 158  
 Jacobs, Megan 167  
 Jadrych, James 153  
 Jagiela, Eric 167  
 Jahoda, Stephanie 178  
 Jalovecky, Ashley 91, 114,  
     126, 143, 148, 218, 219,  
     231  
 Jancaric, Amanda 153

Janiga, Ashleigh 55, 178  
 Janik, Troy 158  
 Janis, Cassandra 100, 167  
 Jarnecke, Amber 167  
 Jarnecke, Melinda 178  
 Jarosak, Alicia 158  
 Jasnica, Darko 153, 219  
 Jenks, Brenten 158  
 Jercha, Megan 167  
 Jett, Ashley 167  
 Jimenez, Veronica 158  
 Jimenez, Carlos 143  
 Johnson, Adam 167  
 Johnson, Brittany 198  
 Johnson, Matthew 167  
 Johnson, Natalie 178  
 Johnson, Robin 158  
 Johnson, Steven 153  
 Johnston, Vance 25, 178  
 Jolly, David 178  
 Jonathon 170  
 Jones, Jay 153  
 Jones, Kristine 105, 167  
 Jones, Marc 32, 33, 71, 153  
 Jones, Marcus 135  
 Jones, Nicole 158, 200  
 Jones, Shannon 158, 201  
 Jordan, Chris 143  
 Jordan, Meagan 167  
 Joseph, Charles Murphy 147  
 Jovanoski, Gordana 158  
 Jovanovic, Biljana 178  
 Jovanovic, Mirjana 167  
 Joyce, Eddie 173  
 Joyce, Edwin 167  
 Juchcinski, Timothy 158  
 Judy, Tate 178  
 Juszcak, Steven 24, 41, 167



# K

Kalberer, James 167  
 Kalch, Jennifer 178  
 Kalman, Audrey 153  
 Kaminski, Nicholas 178  
 Kanich, Rachel 122, 124, 125, 160  
 Kapalko, Amanda 6, 153  
 Karagias, Trevor 178  
 Karagory, Kaitlin 178  
 Kari 92  
 Kasper, Jaimie 55, 178  
 Kasper, Jamie 55  
 Katona, Kevin 178  
 Kaufmann, Albert 153  
 Kaurich, Andrew 167  
 Kawiecki, Matthew 178  
 Kearby, Courtney 178  
 Keel, Joel 153  
 Keeling, Whitney 219  
 Keen, Megan 143  
 Keene, Jessica 158  
 Kellams, Nathan 158  
 Kelley, David 167  
 Kelly, Elizabeth 167  
 Kemp, Amber 158  
 Kemp, Brad 153  
 Kemp, Bradley 40  
 Kendall, David 143  
 Kenealy, Samantha 167  
 Kennedy, Jacquelyn 209  
 Kennedy, Sean 167  
 Kerezman, Benjamin 19, 78, 158  
 Kestle, Brandon 178

Kidd, Katina 178  
 Kilgore, Adam 13, 90, 120, 153  
 Killmer, Elise 224  
 Kirincic, Sarah 158  
 Kirk, Michael 18, 78, 123, 124, 125, 133, 145, 153, 219  
 Kirkpatrick, Ashley 143  
 Kiszkan, Sheri 158  
 Kladis, Danny 153, 199  
 Klimaszewski, Torie 178  
 Klimczyk, Nicole 158  
 Klinger, Amanda 28, 49, 83, 168  
 Kmiotek, Kraig 6, 103, 241, 243  
 Knickerbocker, Craig 47, 178  
 Knudsen, Jennifer 153  
 Knudsen, Megan 158  
 Knuth, Kristen 28, 178  
 Kobayashi, Kiyoshi 26  
 Kobe, Michael 168  
 Kobe, Rebecca 178  
 Koebcke, Brittney 168  
 Koller, Heather 168  
 Komenda, Brittany 178  
 Komenda, Lauren 178  
 Konchar, Austin 47, 168  
 Konchar, Clint 46  
 Konyk, Lauren 168, 240  
 Koonce, Elizabeth 143, 219  
 Kornacki, John 153  
 Kornacki, Kacey 53, 54  
 Korpak, Jayne 178  
 Kostelnik, Kara 178  
 Kostelnik, Samantha 168  
 Kovachevich, Natalie 48, 158, 219  
 Kovecsi, James 178  
 Kowalczyk, Steven 92, 95, 143  
 Kozik, Derek 168  
 Kozik, Nick 241  
 Kozik, Nickolas 158  
 Krabbenhoef, Aaron 178  
 Kranick, Melissa 178  
 Kranick, Steven 153

Krass, Kendal 143  
 Kremke, Kristofer 158  
 Krenkel, Dana 153  
 Krenkel, Danae 129, 153  
 Krga, Amanda 168  
 Krooswyk, Nicole 178  
 Krooswyk, Robbie 70  
 Krooswyk, Robert 62, 135, 153  
 Krueger, Kevin 178  
 Krug, Jeffrey 178  
 Kushneruk, Michael 153

# L

Labno, Christopher 158  
 Labno, Sam 55  
 Labno, Samantha 28, 168  
 Laboy, Alicia 9  
 Laboy, Alycia 44, 158, 194, 244  
 Ladendorf, Michael 153  
 Ladra, Luke 168  
 Lamar, Dominique 143  
 Lambert, Lindsay 168  
 Lamping, Kyle 78, 168  
 Lane, Valerie 7, 168  
 Langbauer, Colette 159  
 Lankford, Ashley 144  
 Lapine, Ronald 159  
 Larson, David 32, 144  
 Larson, Tiffany 168  
 Laskovich, Timothy 178  
 Lasky, Daniel 159  
 Laster, Brian 178  
 Laux, Sarah 178  
 Lavery, Brittany 168  
 Layba, Richard 153  
 Leal, Anthony 56, 97, 125, 144,





Leal, Raul 159  
 Lee, Amanda 168  
 Lee, Kristen 69, 159  
 Leffert, Steven 144  
 Leggett, Olivia 54, 178  
 Lehmann, Steve 195  
 Lehmann, Steven 90, 103, 104,  
 113, 144, 209  
 Leib, Robert 23, 153, 219  
 Leimbach, Amanda 178  
 Leimbach, Danielle 11, 34, 35,  
 106, 159  
 Leith, Michael 153  
 Lentz, Donald 159, 204, 205  
 Lentz, Steven 168  
 Lenzo, Daniel 178  
 Lesniewski, John 178  
 Leucuta, Michael 43  
 Leucuta, Micheal 144  
 Levack, Stacy 168  
 Leveritt, Carmyn 29, 178  
 Levin, Benjamin 178  
 Lewandowski, Camille 159  
 Lewis, Brandon 153  
 Lewis, Brett 178  
 Lewis, Brittany 144  
 Lewis, Jessica 168  
 Lewis, Nathan 125, 159  
 Lewis, Sarah 168  
 Leyba, Rebecca 144, 153  
 Liebig, Ashley 144  
 Liesch, Robert 32, 114, 159,  
 162, 207, 218, 219  
 Lindstrom, Hannah 168  
 Ling, Jeremy 153  
 Ling, Lindsay 178  
 Lingenfelter, Samantha 144,  
 219, 248  
 Lipe, Casey 168  
 Little, Robert 178  
 Llerena, Abigail 178  
 Locke, Michael 234  
 Loeffler, Eric 13, 153  
 Loeffler, Rebecca 153

Loewe, Joseph 168  
 Lofland, Peter 177, 178  
 Lombardo, Jessica 159  
 Lonergan, Joseph 178  
 Long, Larry 58, 60  
 Long, Lawrence 168  
 Longfellow, David 168  
 Longo, Christopher 23, 127,  
 159  
 Longstreet, Christina 168  
 Lopez, Aaron 159, 219, 220  
 Lopez, Christina 159  
 Lopez, Erika 168  
 Lopez, Johnathan 27  
 Lopez, Jonathan 168  
 Lopez, Nicole 145  
 Lowe, Jacoby 168  
 Lozanovski, Brittany 178  
 Lubbock, Lee 145  
 Lubbock, Sarah 145  
 Luck, Blake 145  
 Ludwig, Jessica 153  
 Luedtke, Jaime 153  
 Luna, Amanda 168  
 Lunn, Kim 178  
 Lynch, Thomas 178

# M

Maddack, Joshua 168  
 Madsen, Ashley 178  
 Magana, Andres 41, 159  
 Magana, Mark 159  
 Mahaffey, Charles 145  
 Mahaffey, John 173  
 Mahaffey, Johnathan 168  
 Malast, Elizabeth 153

Maldonado, Kayla 168  
 Malic, Ivan 199  
 Malik, Ivan 153  
 Malik, Kamran 178  
 Manning, Jennifer 153  
 Mannino, Mitch 118  
 Mannino, Mitchell 145  
 Manoski, Lucas 72  
 Maples, Samantha 178  
 Marcotte, Brandon 153  
 Mardis, Dawn 168  
 Marek, Sarah 178  
 Marion, Thomas 159  
 Marjanov, Stephan 60  
 Marjanov, Stevan 25, 179  
 Marjanov, Viera 159  
 Markos, Robert 168  
 Markwell, Heather 52, 53, 145  
 Markwell, Tracy 9, 53, 68, 145  
 Marsh, Joshua 78  
 Marsh, Victoria 159  
 Martin, Jeremiah 159, 212  
 Martin, Joshua 179  
 Martin, Megan 145, 245  
 Martinez, Cecelia 31, 82, 168  
 Martinez, Christopher 159  
 Martinez, Claudia 159  
 Martinez, James 134, 145  
 Martinez, Joel 179  
 Martinez, Raphael 168  
 Martinez, Shariliz 153  
 Martinez, Stacey 179  
 Marton, Jeremy 168  
 Masch, Dallas 179  
 Massom, Britany 159  
 Mathis, Thomas 179, 238, 239  
 Matthews, Chance 159  
 Matvia, Dynel 168  
 Mauch, Raymond 159  
 Mausser, Maria 169  
 Mayerik, Alyssa 179  
 Mayfield, Joe 169  
 Mayfield, Vanessa 145  
 Mayoch, Thomas 153  
 Mays, Eric 92, 153



- Mazur, Ashley 153  
 Mazur, Zachary 153  
 McCarley, Joshua 169  
 McClellan, Kimberly 153  
 McClellan, Thomas 153  
 McCorkle, Micheal 145  
 McCorkmick, Jacob 145  
 McCormack, Kyle 169  
 McCormick, Autumn 159, 219  
 McCormick, Jacob 85  
 McCormick, Monica 153  
 McCoy, Kristen 179  
 McCready, Brittany 63, 159  
 McCready, Kathryn 179  
 McCready, Katie 63  
 McCune, Daniel 145  
 McCurdy, Kayla 159  
 McDonald, Jeremy 159  
 McGann, Eric 153  
 McIntyre, Danielle 145  
 McKee, Hannah 159, 229  
 McLeod, Meredith 126, 146, 230  
 McLeod, Steven 179  
 McMurray, Alicia 169  
 McMurray, Thattus 159  
 McNear, Kelly 169  
 McNiskin, Michael 169  
 McNorton, Justin 169  
 McQueen, Romika 153  
 McWhirter, Jessica 146  
 Meanovich, Kristopher 153  
 Meanovich, Victoria 159  
 Mecyssine, Amanda 179  
 Medanich, Allyssa 159  
 Meehan, Ray 6  
 Meehan, Raymond 179  
 Meehan, Sean 153  
 Meints, Samantha 69, 159  
 Melcic, Brandon 146  
 Melican, Daniel 169  
 Menclewicz, Ross 159  
 Mendez, Kristin 80, 159  
 Mendizabal, Anthony 159  
 Mendoza, Alicia 159  
 Mendoza, Joseph 153  
 Mendoza, Nina 146  
 Mergl, Brandy 169  
 Merifield, Lorena 169  
 Merket, Stephanie 159  
 Merkner, Laura 10, 146, 209, 214, 215  
 Mesich, Meghann 153  
 Messer, William 153  
 Metz, Jessica 44, 45, 127, 159  
 Meyer, Daniel 169  
 Meyers, Dennis 84  
 Meyers, Rebecca 153  
 Mihal, Jason 146  
 Mihal, Tejay 169  
 Mihal, Valerie 179  
 Miiller, Ryan 169  
 Mikenas, Sara 159  
 Miller, Diamond 179  
 Miller, Jonathan 159  
 Miller, Joseph 169  
 Miller, Kelly 179  
 Milligan, Tarin 10, 146  
 Mills, Angela 179  
 Mills, Donald 169  
 Mills, Eli 179  
 Mills, Jessica 146  
 Mills, Kate 250  
 Minard, Vanessa 153  
 Mirabella, Amanda 179  
 Misch, Melinda 21, 81, 179  
 Mischanko, Christina 169  
 Mischanko, Samantha 179  
 Mischke, Sara 169  
 Mitchell, Jessica 159  
 Mitre, Steven 153  
 Mitts, Erin 153  
 Mocabee, Timothy 9, 131, 146  
 Moehl, Katie 159, 243  
 Mola, Jennifer 153  
 Momola, Nikita 8, 159, 228  
 Montez, Zachary 169  
 Montgomery, David 159, 160  
 Monzon, Nastasia 169  
 Moore, Jessica 179  
 Moore, Michael 169  
 Morales, Amanda 11, 103, 106, 107, 111, 124, 125, 146, 218, 219, 223  
 Morales, Ilia 179  
 Morales, Joseph 104, 159, 160  
 Morales, Michael 179  
 Moran, Colleen 179  
 Moran, Enrique 169  
 Moran, Megan 169  
 Morgan, Brandon 147  
 Morin, Yolanda 159  
 Moritz, Raymond 147  
 Morris, Emily 179, 183  
 Morris, Michael 169  
 Morris, Ryan 179  
 Morrison, Brittany 169  
 Mose, Jennifer 10, 159  
 Moss, Christopher 169  
 Moyado, Natalie 159  
 Mueller, Ryan 153  
 Muhammad, Amy 179  
 Mulherin, Alex 153  
 Mullin, Melissa 147  
 Mullins, April 159  
 Mulroe, Brendan 26, 114, 159  
 Multani, Rubiya 169  
 Multani, Sukhmani 169  
 Mulvihill, Max 169  
 Mulzon, Kassandra 169  
 Mundt, Eric 50, 90, 113, 120, 147, 194, 208  
 Munoz, Alexander 169  
 Munro, Mark 147  
 Munroe, Mark 126  
 Munsell, Charles 92, 153  
 Murray, Christopher 159  
 Murray, David 159  
 Murray, Michael 179  
 Mussman, Reece 169  
 Mustafa, Sara 103, 159, 163  
 Mustafa, Sarah 248, 249  
 Myers, Jeremy 179  
 Myers, Kristen 20, 159  
 Myers, Kristin 81





Myers, Matthew 159  
Myers, Rebecca 14

# N

Nabhan, Nedal 153  
Nadolski, Jasmine 169  
Nadolski, Matthew 126, 169  
Nagler, Stephen 147  
Nardini, Manuel 159  
Nasiatka, Christina 169  
Nasiatka, Micheal 147  
Neace, Jacklyn 159  
Neace, Korissa 179  
Neary, Samantha 169  
Nebel, Krista 179  
Nelson, Katie 147, 209  
Nelson, Kimberly 147  
Nelson, Kimberly 100, 227  
Nelson, Nicole 159, 160  
Nelson, Tera 169  
Nestorovich, Katie 179  
Nevil, Christopher 169  
Newbeck, Samantha 126, 147,  
247  
Newlin, Cassandra 179  
Newton, Benjamin 179  
Nguyen, Tuong VI 159  
Nichols, Christopher 159  
Nichols, Ryan 159  
Nichols, Tiffany 179  
Nigh, Corey 208  
Nigh, Cory 147  
Nigh, Kalan 169  
Nimeth, Genevieve 147, 218,  
219, 220  
Nolan, Kenneth 170

Norkus, Bradley 113, 147  
Norkus, Brian 205, 207  
Norkus, Bryan 159  
Norman, Ashley 68, 159  
Norris, Grant 170  
Novak, Joshua 179  
Nowaczyk, Daniel 14, 153  
Nugent, Kari 179

# O

O', Amanda Brien 170  
O', Michelle Dor 179  
O', Richard Reilly 159  
O'Brien, Katie 179  
O'Reilly, Andrew 179  
Oakes, Joelle 179  
Oakes, Jordan 159  
Olson, Sara 159, 199  
Onofrey, Robbie 179  
Oprisko, Alexander 179  
Oprisko, Michael 170  
Orlich, Sarah 153  
Ortiz, Sara 179  
Ortiz, Tegan 147, 196, 217  
Otero, Michelle 153  
Overmyer, Melissa 170  
Owens, Jeffrey 170  
Owens, Lindsay 179

# P

Paczolt, Rachel 170  
Padlo, Melissa 49  
Pagan, Jacqueline 81  
Pagan, Jacquelyn 179  
Pall, Nathaniel 179  
Palmer, Ryan 153  
Paniaguas, Mande 159  
Pankiewicz, Joseph 159  
Pankiewicz, Joseph 8  
Papachronis, Anastasia 245  
Papachronis, Athanasia 9, 147,  
208  
Papachronis, Tasha 193  
Park, Joseph 170  
Parker, Michael 113, 116, 120,  
153  
Parker, Michelle 153  
Parker, Moana 210  
Parker, Tiare 48, 153  
Parker, Kevin 131, 147,  
209  
Parrish, Ashley 147, 208  
Passananti, Crystal 159  
Passo, Alexander 147  
Patillo, Breanna 170  
Patrick, Eric 159  
Patton, Kayla 179  
Paulson, Philip 180  
Pawelko, Melissa 153  
Payne, Kimberly 6, 97, 205  
Pearman, Avery 24, 170  
Pearman, William 180  
Pearson, Christina 147  
Pedro, Justin 160



Peeler, Tommy 170  
 Pekar, Rachel 160, 212, 227  
 Pekovic, Christina 199  
 Pekovic, Kristina 148  
 Pekovic, Svetlana 160  
 Pennington, Anthony 160  
 Pennington, Arielle 180  
 Pennington, Colette 170  
 Penrose, Felicia 160  
 Percifield, Holly 180  
 Percifild, Holly 34  
 Perez, Daniel 170  
 Perez, Jose 160  
 Perez, Maria 180  
 Perkins, Kielly 170  
 Perrine, Jennifer 153  
 Perry, Krista 160  
 Perry, Zachary 180  
 Peters, Carolyn 170  
 Peters, Clinton 180  
 Peterson, William 160  
 Petrak, Alexis 180  
 Petroff, Carl 180  
 Pezel, Justin 62, 170  
 Pfeiffer, Ryke 160  
 Phillips, Brandon 170  
 Phillips, Christopher 160, 213  
 Phipps, Stephanie 75, 94, 170, 171  
 Piasecki, Andrew 180  
 Pier, Holli 48  
 Pierce, Deandre 180  
 Pierce, Jurgen 170  
 Piers, Holli 170  
 Piers, Rami 160, 228, 231  
 piers, rami 106, 222  
 Pieszchala, Danielle 170  
 Pilipovich, Matthew 180  
 Piro, Aubrie 170  
 Pirowski, Lauren 170  
 Pirtle, Pierre 180  
 Pivarnik, Cara 148  
 Plotke, Michelle 160  
 Plummer, Matthew 153  
 Pontjeris, Dean 153

Popplewell, Alex 148  
 Posey, Christina 180  
 Posiadlik, Carly 180  
 Powers, Lauren 180  
 Prance, Shane 180  
 Prassas, Alexandra 170  
 Prassas, Ioanna 153  
 Price, Andrew 180  
 Price, Rachael 180  
 price, Rachael 233  
 Prickett, Paul 180  
 Pride, LaTisha 153  
 Priest, Brian 226  
 Priest, Bryan 160  
 Privett, Ashley 170  
 Proper, Alex 180  
 Pruim, Amanda 180  
 Pruim, Emily 160  
 Prusynski, Danielle 180  
 Pugh, Stephanie 153  
 Pullen, Ashley 160  
 Purcell, Matthew 160  
 Purdy, Raymond 160  
 Puskac, Stephan 153

## Q

Quick, Alexander 84  
 Quinton, Levi 212, 213

## R

Raber, Crystal 160  
 Radakovich, Bryan 170  
 Radakovich, Samantha 180  
 Rader, Alicia 180  
 Rader, Danielle 148  
 Rager, William 153  
 Rains, David 148  
 Ramian, Eric 59, 170  
 Ramian, Kevin 169, 170  
 Ramirez, Elizabeth 180  
 Ramirez, Rachael 160  
 Ramos, Pedro 170  
 Ramsey, Drew 160  
 Rance, Mandi 104, 160, 235  
 Rapo, Mark 170  
 Rappatta, Mallory 160  
 Rasco, Nicholas 170  
 Ratliff, Christina 119  
 Rawdon, Megan 180, 245  
 Ray, Timothy 160  
 Razo, Vincent 170, 226  
 Redden, Kimberly 100, 160  
 Redlark, Kyle 180  
 Reed, Rachel 160, 193, 195  
 Reeves, Ashley 180  
 Reges, Brittney 170  
 Reiner, Brandy 153  
 Reisen, David 148, 208  
 Repay, Andrew 56, 96, 160  
 Rey, Joshua 148, 213  
 Reyes, Cynthia 180  
 Reyes, Vanessa 180, 234  
 Reynolds, Brian 170  
 Reynolds, Jacob 153





Reynolds, Nathan 160  
 Rhein, Erik 23, 41, 73, 160  
 Rhodes, Keith 153  
 Ribar, Kyle 148  
 Rice, Jacqueline 148, 192, 209  
 Richards, Kelsey 170  
 Richardson, Danielle 49, 170  
 Richart, Cody 180  
 Richie, Heidi 170  
 Richmond, Megan 106, 148, 228  
 Richmond, Ryan 46, 180, 212  
 Ricker, Jason 148  
 Riffett, Jessica 68, 94, 148  
 Riffett, Larry 170  
 Riggle, Rebecca 170, 245  
 Rigoni, Brittany 160, 162  
 Rigoni, Christopher 148  
 Rigoni, Nicholas 180  
 Riley, Aaron 153  
 Riley, Kyle 153  
 Riley, Toni 160  
 Rinehart, Dalton 170  
 Ring, Jessica 148  
 Rio, Matthew 148  
 Rio, Paul 171  
 Rios, Julia 171  
 Rios, Tony 171  
 Ritchie, Nathaniel 153  
 Rivera, Alicia 171  
 Rivera, Milton 135, 153  
 Rivera, Tony 153  
 Robb, Jeffrey 160  
 Robbins, Emily 20, 171  
 Robbins, Matthew 171  
 Robbins, Tonya 153  
 Robinson, Alicia 80, 160  
 Robinson, Kristopher 260  
 Robinson, Kurtis 180  
 Robinson, Latrice 171  
 Rocha, Jessica 171  
 Rodgers, Melinda 171  
 Rodriguez, Cecilia 180  
 Rodriguez, Christina 118  
 Rodriguez, Crystal 160

Rodriguez, Erica 153, 229, 230  
 Rodriguez, Joshua 149  
 Rodriguez, Justine 171  
 Rodriguez, Megan 29, 160, 219  
 Rodriguez, Nicole 153  
 Rodriguez, Nina 153  
 Rodriguez, Selestina 180  
 Rodriguez, Timothy 160  
 Rodriguez, Yesenia 153  
 Rodriguez, Jasmine 171, 231  
 Rogers, Daniel 160  
 Rogers, Robert 180  
 Rogers, Sarah 83, 149  
 Rogers-Sult, Courtney 160, 196  
 Rojano, Luana 180  
 Ronk, William 149  
 Rooney, John 78, 93, 149  
 Ropp, Ryan 180  
 Rosas, Beth 171  
 Rose, Matthew 160  
 Rose, Mea Siroky 216  
 Rosebaum, Steve 120  
 Rosenbaum, Stephanie 171  
 Rosenbaum, Steven 113, 135, 149, 193  
 Rosenbaum, Tyler 171  
 Rosenberger, Spencer 126  
 Rosendaul, Joshua 153  
 Ross, Tera 180  
 Rosser, Sarah 44, 180  
 Rossi, Jeremy 171  
 Rotarius, Jamie 180  
 Rousseau, April 161  
 Rowton, Brandon 153  
 Roy, Keith 171, 204  
 Roy, Paige 7, 10, 92, 94, 149, 192, 201, 209  
 Royce, Megan 149  
 Rubalcaba, Louis 131  
 Rudziewicz, James 171  
 Ruiz, Eric 118, 158, 161  
 Russ, Lindsey 161  
 Russell, Melissa 171

Ruszkowski, Brittnay 180  
 Ruvalcaba, Louis 153  
 Ruzga, Lauren 31, 161  
 Rybecki, Catherine 171

# S

Sabich, Steven 153  
 Sable, Amanda 161  
 Sabocik, Trisha 9, 75, 92, 149  
 Safstrom, Arthur 180  
 Sakes, Ashley 180  
 Salicete, Jack 171  
 Salmi, Samantha 180  
 Samplawski, Amy 52, 68, 149, 208  
 Samplawski, Lisa 21, 52, 81, 131, 180  
 Sanchez, Alfredo 23, 40, 153  
 Sanchez, Damon 153  
 Sanchez, Jovanny 149  
 Sanchez, Krystle 171  
 Sandage, Jacob 180  
 Sandage, Micheal 149  
 Sandage, Richard 171  
 Sanders, Amber 171  
 Sanders, Ashley 180  
 Sanders, Sarah 171  
 Sandlin, Ashley 44, 161, 240  
 Sandoval, Kristie 161  
 Sandrey, Timothy 180  
 Sanetznik, Erica 149, 244  
 Sanetznik', Erica 243  
 Santana, Sarah 14, 149, 196, 197, 217  
 Santos, Joselyn 180  
 Santos, Joshua 180



- Sarnowski, Walter 171  
 Sarson, Rachael 149, 201, 203, 209  
 Sasser, Katie 180  
 Satanek, Amanda 180  
 Sattler, Jeffrey 161  
 Saylor, Natasha 180  
 Scegiel, Sabrina 171  
 Schaefer, Natasha 153  
 Scharf, Craig 180  
 Scharpf, Sarah 161, 201  
 Scheeringa, David 180  
 Scheuer, Mark 113, 149, 219  
 Schick, Kevin 171  
 Schiller, Benjamin 161  
 Schima, Lisa 161  
 Schmitz, Michael 153  
 Schneider, James 161  
 Schneider, Trina 161  
 Scholz, Amanda 161  
 Schoon, Kelly 161, 219  
 Schreiber, Amanda 153  
 Schreiber, Kate 171  
 Schuch, Anthony 180, 212  
 Schuler, Ashlee 150  
 Schuler, Eric 180  
 Schultz, Krista 171  
 Schultz, Steven 153, 244  
 Scobey, James 153  
 Scott, Christy 153  
 Scott, Colleen 68, 69, 161  
 Scott, Lauren 180  
 Searer, John 161  
 Sechrest, Brooke 161  
 Sedoris, Amanda 171  
 Sedoris, Jessica 180  
 Seefeldt, Nicole 161, 202  
 Seigh, Anthony 171  
 Sellers, Maribel 132  
 Sellers, Maribel 135, 147, 149, 153  
 Sellers, Mirabella 130  
 Serrano, Giovanni 171  
 Serrano, Michele 161  
 Serratto, John 161  
 Sever, Tasha 28, 180  
 Shadley, Benjamin 171  
 Shannon, Scott 153  
 Shaun 224  
 Shay, Amy 129, 150  
 Shay, Jamie 161  
 Shay, Lindsay 180  
 Shearer, Michelle 161  
 Shebesh, Aaron 161  
 Sheets, Jacqueline 180  
 Shelton, Kevin 171  
 Shepherd, Matthew 150  
 Shepherd, Terry 161  
 Shippen, Joshua 161  
 Sholar, Christopher 153  
 Shreve, Brian 171  
 Sibakoska, Katerina 161  
 Sievers, Jessica 171  
 Silva, Eric 153  
 Sims, Amber 171  
 Singer, Rosalinda 161  
 Singh, Denise 153  
 Singh, Theresa 171  
 Sinkus, Michael 161  
 Siple, Jessica 171  
 Siroky, Maerose 241  
 Sischo, Joseph 180  
 Skalka, Jessica 171  
 Sklarz, Jesse 153  
 Sklarz, Rachel 180  
 Skubish, Nikolas 180, 232  
 Skubish, Victoria 75, 172  
 Slamkowski, Amy 35  
 Slamkowski, Joel 85, 110, 113, 150, 153, 193, 209  
 Slatton, Tim 119, 121, 192  
 Slatton, Timothy 13, 102, 113, 150, 208, 237, 244  
 Slatton, timothy 130  
 Slawnikowski, Brent 180  
 Sliker, Ashley 180  
 Slone, Erik 172  
 Slowik, Mitch 121, 161  
 Slusher, Kyle 172  
 Smith, Ashley 35, 153  
 Smith, Emily 150  
 Smith, Hannah 172  
 Smith, James 180  
 Smith, Jennifer 161  
 Smith, Justin 78, 79  
 Smith, Korea 126, 162, 251  
 Smith, Leigha 172, 214  
 Smith, Nathan 78, 161  
 Smith, Paige 153  
 Smith, Shana 180  
 Smith, Teresa 63  
 Smolinski, Stephen 181  
 Snyder, Hannah 181  
 Sobierajski, Michael 50, 172  
 Solis, Allegra 172  
 Somers, Amanda 172  
 Sommers, Danielle 172, 243, 246, 247  
 Sosa, Ashley 172  
 Sosa, Nathaniel 161  
 Spacek, Wendy 161, 216, 224  
 Spasoff, Nicholas 153  
 Spear, Ronald 153  
 Specht, Ryan 181  
 Speer, Eric 58, 172  
 Spence, Jennifer 161  
 Spoolstra, Tyler 47, 172  
 Spotten, Brett 18, 113, 141, 150  
 Sprague, Ashley 153  
 Stammis, Phillip 150  
 Standerski, Timothy 181, 238  
 Stanfield, Katelyn 172  
 Stanley, Alexander 172  
 Stanley, Anna 181  
 Stanley, Josh 57  
 Stanley, Joshua 161  
 Stanley, Kristin 172  
 Stanton, Brittny 181  
 Staples, David 113, 153  
 Stark, Alisha 161  
 Starr, Stephanie 161  
 Stasi, Stephanie 153, 248  
 Stasik, Amanda 8, 161  
 Stasik, Brian 181





Stearns, Jason 172  
 Stearns, Natasha 181  
 Stearns, Nathaniel 172  
 Steele, Danielle 181  
 Steighner, Jami 181  
 Steven, Joshua Farley 141  
 Stevens, Richard 181  
 Stewart, Alexandra 11, 105,  
     106 158, 161, 163, 219, 220  
 Stewart, Christina 30, 31, 161  
 Stidham, Corey 181  
 Stille, Stacey 181  
 Stills, Andrew 56, 59, 161  
 Stills, Julie 181  
 Stinson, Lynda 31, 153, 209  
 Stockstill, Tara 181  
 Stoeher, Zachary 84, 181  
 Stolarz, Jeanna 13, 150  
 Stoll, William 161  
 Stone, Audrey 172  
 Stone, Randi 161, 243  
 Stowers, Michele 181  
 Strang, Erin 181, 211  
 Strbac, Alexis 161  
 Stringer, Diamond 172  
 Sturges, Nicholas 113, 150  
 Stutler, Shannon 119, 149, 150,  
     208, 219, 246  
 Suggs, Cody 172  
 Sullins, Kristen 172  
 Sullivan, Kenneth 161  
 Sullivan, Thomas 172  
 Sulski, Amanda 181  
 Summers, Craig 62, 181  
 Supp, Alexander 96, 161  
 Suthers, Michael 79, 161  
 Sutton, Ronald 181  
 Swain, Rick 181  
 Swanson, Laura 181  
 Swanson, Scott 150  
 Sweat, Stephen 10, 18, 78,  
     116, 150  
 Sykora, Nicole 181  
 Szabo, Jessica 153

# T

Talbot, Daniel 172  
 Talbot, Molly 150  
 Talley, Kaitlyn 161  
 Tamietto, Ashley 150  
 Tampier, Samantha 10, 161,  
     162, 219  
 Tanis, Stephanie 76, 77, 105,  
     119, 130, 161, 202  
 Tankersley, Jessie 181  
 Tanses, Michael 181  
 Tapper, Brittany 181  
 Targgart, Brandy 161  
 Tauber, Jennifer 153  
 Taylor, Ariana 181  
 Taylor, Leah 161, 236  
 Taylore, Whitney Keeling 158  
 Tkarsky, Alexander 219  
 Tellez, Eric 161  
 Terkovitz, Allyssa 181  
 Testa, Ashley 181  
 Tharp, Eric 22, 161, 207  
 Thiel, Cody 172  
 Thomas, Kayla 181  
 Thomason, Katie 181  
 Thomason, Robert 172  
 Thomason, Vickie 172  
 Thompson, Darren 153  
 Thompson, Ricky 172  
 Thompson, Sheila 172  
 Thompson, Timothy 102, 130,  
     181, 245  
 Thorn, Chris 167  
 Thorn, Christopher 172  
 Thorne, Steven 181  
 Thornton, Anita 181  
 Thornton, Brian 181  
 Tibbetts, Catelinn 153, 235  
 Tiernan, Megan 162  
 Tiffany 170  
 Tilford, Melody 181  
 Tilford, Micah 135, 150  
 Tinsley, Joseph 162  
 Todd, Amanda 211  
 Todosijevic, Michael 172  
 Toigo, Amber 181  
 Tokarski, Alexander 162  
 Tolliver, Emily 181  
 Tolliver, Myles 179  
 Tomas, Robert 162  
 Tomaszewski, David 79, 162  
 Toomey, Sean 50, 172  
 Tooze, Shaun 153  
 Torres, Francisco 162  
 Torres, Thomas 181  
 Townsend, Brock 162  
 Tratar, Jaclyn 172  
 Trathen, John 182  
 Trathen, Steven 150  
 Trinidad, Peter 172  
 Trobaugh, Meredith 182  
 Troup, Christopher 182  
 Troup, Robert 162  
 Trunk, Ryan 6  
 Tuesburg, Robert 6, 153  
 Tugurian, Sarah 94, 129, 132,  
     150, 219  
 Tulacz, Corey 182  
 Tuomi, John 153  
 Turner, Annalisha 35  
 Turner, Brandi 182  
 Turner, Brandon 62  
 Turpin, Rebecca 150, 192,  
     201, 203, 209  
 Tuthill, Jordan 26, 162  
 Twilla, Erik 172  
 Tylka, Kayla 172, 234



# U

Udchitz, Katlyn 182  
Underwood, Clarence III 150  
Uran, Jody 182  
Urbanek, Ashley 160, 162  
Urquidi, Darren 162  
Ussery, Carl 60

Vazquez, Julian 182  
Vazquez, Letticia 162  
Veatch, Andrew 172  
Vega, Camilo 151  
Velez, Adam 162  
Via, Amanda 149, 151  
Villarreal, Luis 153  
Villegas, Josette 92, 95, 153, 196  
Vincent, Tyler 162  
Vivian, David 172  
Vivian, Krystal 182, 216  
Vottero, Kyle 172  
Vottero, Ryan 42, 172  
Vucko, Felicia 76, 172  
Vulpitta, Antionette 151  
Vulpitta, Theresa 172

Weiland, Kimberly 162, 203  
Weimer, Jennifer 153  
Weldon, Joshua 182  
Weldon, Nicole 162  
Welshan, Brandon 162  
Wenger, Megan 162  
Westphal, Dustin 182  
Wetmore, Shauna 162  
Whalen, Joshua 78, 153  
Wheeler, Meredith 93, 151  
Whelan, Alexandra 182  
Whelan, Alexis 235  
Whiting, Leonora 172  
Whitley, Ashton 182  
Whitten, Ashleigh 173  
Whitworth, Lisa 30, 31, 49, 118, 162, 195, 202, 207, 218, 219

Whitworth, Rachael 151, 197  
Wiatrowski, Jean 153  
Wiederhold, Brittany 173  
Wilbanks, Justin 151  
Wilborn, Quentin 162  
Wilczynski, Erick 153  
Wilhelm, Kevin 151  
Wilk, Eric 24, 25, 182  
Wilk, Katie 20, 162  
Wilken, Jeffrey 162  
Wilkening, Christopher 182  
Wilkening, Randall 85, 151  
Willett, Scott 162  
Willfond, Zachary 173  
Williams, Brittany 162, 246  
Williams, Christopher 182  
Williams, Jacob 182  
Williams, Jami 234  
Williams, Jessica 162  
Williams, Nichole 173  
Williams, Norman 162  
Williams, Owen 173  
Williams, Sarah 162  
Williams, Sydney 182  
Williams, Zackery 163  
Williamson, Felicia 55, 182  
Willis, Garrett 153

# V

Vahary, Natalie 172, 201  
Valle, Jessica 153  
Valtierra, Gabriel 162  
Van, Aaron Wormer 182  
Van, Kelsi Wormer 172  
Vander, D.J. Wal 118  
Vander, Donald Wal 153  
Vanni, Nicholas 182  
Vanover, Charles 172  
Vargas, Ashley 15, 144, 151  
Vargas, Craig 62, 63, 153  
Vargas, Roberta 135, 144, 151  
Vasconcelos, Vinicius 26, 153  
Vasquez, Eric 153  
Vasquez, Jaime 182  
Vasquez, Rachel 153  
Vaughan, Lawrence 172

# W

Wadkins, Amanda 153  
Wadle, Joseph 84, 132, 151  
Waite, Jennifer 153, 249  
Waite, Kevin 182  
Walker, Rachelle 182  
Walker, Randy 182  
Walla, Nicholas 162  
Wallskog, Kandice 151  
Walters, Adam 18, 41, 162  
Walters, Matthew 182  
Walton, China 182  
Wang, Erin 239  
Warfield, Lindsey 29, 143, 153  
Warren, Daniel 153  
Watson, Heather 151  
Webb, James 172  
Webber, Christina 153  
Weber, Mark 162





Willis, Jason 19, 132, 153  
Willis, Justin 182  
Wilson, Branden 163  
Wilson, Cortie 173  
Wilson, Karissa 173  
Wilson, Mary 182  
Wilson, Tara 182  
Wilt, James 182  
Windsor, Wendy 76  
Winowitch, Corey 182  
Wise, Nathaniel 173  
Wood, Amber 182  
Wood, Ashley 49, 173  
Wood, Zachary 182  
Woodard, Kimberly 153  
Woodard, Kortney 182  
Wozniak, Lacey 182  
Wozniak, Mack 46, 173  
Wright, Benjamin 182  
Wright, David 153  
Wright, Fawn 182  
Wright, Joseph 182  
Wright, Lauren 173  
Wright, Marissa 151  
Wright, Nathan 151  
Wright, Nicole 173  
Wright, Philip 127  
Wright, Phillip 23  
Wring, James 163  
Wyatt, Rachel 173

## Y

Yakel, Amanda 183  
Yates, Nicole 156, 163  
Yauch, Jessica 183  
Ybarra, Rachel 77, 183

Yester, Jaclyn 183  
York, Amanda 173  
York, Jennifer 183  
York, Michael 163  
Young, Joshua 41, 173  
Young, Melody 153, 209, 219  
Younger, Natasha 183  
Yudt, Kelley 126, 151, 228, 229

## Z

Zack, Laura 45, 173  
Zakutansky, Nancy 153  
Zamarron, Olivia 7, 163, 196,  
202, 205  
Zaper, Matthew 151  
Zaragoza, Amanda 234  
Zaragoza, Blake 153  
Zbikowski, Kevin 183, 213  
Zemlik, Daniel 42, 153  
Zeriau, Tracie 183  
Zervos, Jana 6, 103, 106, 114,  
151, 215, 222, 244  
Zick, Alisha 183  
Ziller, Gabrielle 183  
Ziulkowski, Natalie 183  
Zmierski, Melissa 173  
Zuidervliet, Jacob 173, 226  
Zuniga, Adrian 183  
Zygowicz, Zachary 163



*The Portage High School Publications staff offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Jason Cope and Patrick West. It is our wish that you use the blank space on these pages to write some of your own favorite memories of these two individuals.*

## In Memoriam



Above all be kind to each other, for it might make a difference. Pat was always kind and caring. We hope that he will be remembered as the bright, multi-talented, generous boy that he was.

*- The West Family*



# In Memoriam

*"Losing Jason was, without a doubt, the hardest thing my family and I have had to endure. The strength we gained from the students at PHS was our saving grace. We cried with the students who not only lost a teacher, but also a friend and laughed with those who purposely failed his class in order to have him another year. We were amazed at the grace of those who thanked his parents for bringing such a wonderful man into this world and allowing him to teach them. Whatever is said about the youth of today, we know first hand how caring, thoughtful, and remarkable you truly are. Thank you for loving him and making his short life so full."*

*-Mrs. Tami Kempshire  
and the Cope family*







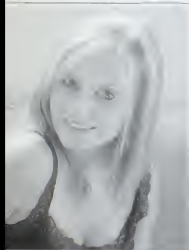
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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased by 1.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased by 1.2 million (Office of National Statistics 1999). The number of people aged 65 and over is projected to increase to 6.5 million by 2011, and the number of people aged 75 and over to 4.5 million (Office of National Statistics 1999).

There is a growing awareness of the need to develop services to meet the needs of older people, and a number of initiatives have been developed to address this need. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for older people, which sets out the government's commitment to improve the lives of older people. The strategy is based on three main principles: (1) to ensure that older people have the opportunity to live independently and actively; (2) to ensure that older people have access to the services and support they need; and (3) to ensure that older people are treated with respect and dignity. The strategy is being implemented through a number of initiatives, including the development of new services and the improvement of existing services.

One of the key initiatives is the development of new services to meet the needs of older people. This includes the development of new housing schemes, new care homes, and new day care centres. The government is also investing in the development of new services to support older people in their homes, such as home care services and telecare services. The government is also investing in the development of new services to support older people in the community, such as community centres and day care centres.

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